

THE TIMES
1785-1985
Tomorrow

Quilt quest
Why American patchwork is fetching high prices

Tibet's plight
The Dalai Lama on his country's need for independence

L'aud alliance
Miles Kingston lists the ancient links between France and Scotland

Mother knows best?
Fashion and the generation gap

Portfolio

The weekly prize in The Times Portfolio competition - £40,000 because there was no winner the previous week - has been won by Mrs M Cartwright, of Dovedale Road, Erdington, Birmingham.

The £2,000 daily prize was not won on Saturday and now stands at £4,000. Portfolio list, page 16; rules and how to play, information service, back page.

Mitterrand tells ships to keep out

President Mitterrand ordered the armed forces to stop any ships or aircraft from approaching France's South Pacific nuclear test site as M Charles Hernu, his Defence Minister, came under increasing pressure to quit over French involvement in the sinking of Rainbow Warrior. **Ships sails, page 6**

Gandhi's gamble

Mr Rajiv Gandhi, India's Prime Minister, ignored Sikh misgivings and called an election in Punjab next month. **Page 7**

Self-help boom

Nearly 50 new businesses are starting every month in the south London area in a resurgence of self-employment, particularly among the young. **Page 2**

Ulster challenge

Ulster's two main Unionist parties are preparing a confrontation with the law to try to force the Government to ban Sinn Fein. **Page 2**

Tobacco protest

The Health Education Council, claiming sponsorship of television sport is making a mockery of advertising bans, has called for an end to all tobacco promotion. **Page 3**

Tibetan anger

The Dalai Lama, Tibet's leader in exile, criticised Mrs Thatcher for her silence on the plight of his country when he gave an exclusive interview to The Times. **Page 4**

Cambodia threat

Prince Norodom Sihanouk's nationalist troops are preparing to step up fighting the Vietnamese in Cambodia after receiving fresh supplies from China. **Page 4**

Bomb kills 55

A car bomb left outside the door of a Beirut supermarket killed 55 people. **Page 4**

Lyle again

Sandy Lyle, the Open champion, recorded six birdies in the last eight holes to pip Ian Woosnam by one stroke for the Benson and Hedges Open golf title. **Page 19**

Prost's victory

Alain Prost drove his McLaren to victory in the Austrian Grand Prix. **Page 20**

Leader, page 13

Letters: On South Africa from Miss M Mahmood-Harris, and others; the environment from Mr M Trowbridge. **Page 13**

Leading articles: The Pope; Pakistan; philanthropy. **Page 10-12**

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The Dalai Lama speaks. **Page 14**

The anatomy of four. **Page 14**

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MPs seek action by ministers on BBC vetting

By Anthony Bevis and Ronald Faux

The independence of the BBC was questioned by MPs yesterday after it had been revealed that M15, the security service, has a long-standing and secret say in the hiring and firing of BBC journalists and staff.

It was reported by The Observer yesterday that all key BBC appointments, and existing staff engaged in current affairs work, are vetted for "subversive" tendencies. MPs immediately demanded a statement from Lord Whitelaw, Lord President of the Council, who is standing in for Mrs Margaret Thatcher during her Austrian holiday, and from Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary.

The row over last month's withdrawal by the BBC government of the Real Lives programme on political extremism in Northern Ireland, after pressure exerted by Mr Brittan, has already raised doubts about BBC independence in the minds of many opposition MPs.

But Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, said at the International Television Festival in Edinburgh yesterday that the M15 link showed that the BBC was under the political control of the Home Office.

He said: "I hope the Home Secretary will come clean about these allegations and make a statement straight away. The Home Secretary must have known about it - he is supposed to - but if he didn't it would be very serious."

Mr Brittan was abroad on holiday yesterday and the Home Office said: "We don't discuss security matters."

But MPs are bound to take the matter up with ministers when the Commons returns from its summer break and Mr Tam Dalyell, Labour MP for Linlithgow, yesterday wrote to Lord Whitelaw to ask whether names of applicants for BBC posts were submitted to M15 for approval and whether ministers were aware of the system. He said: "If these claims are half true it makes claims that the BBC is not an instrument of the British Government somewhat hypocritical."

Mr Dalyell said that he would also expect the three former Labour Home Secretaries to comment on whether they had known of the system. Mr James Callaghan, Mr Merlyn Rees and Mr Roy Jenkins could not be contacted for comment yesterday.

Mr George Foulkes, a Labour frontbencher, spokesman, said that Mrs Thatcher should cut short her holiday and make a statement, as head of the security services, confirming or denying The Observer report. He said that the affair had enormous implications for the independence of the BBC, which had already been thrown into doubt by the banning of the Real Lives programme.

The thought that staff, particularly current affairs and news staff, are vetted in this way shows the whole illusion of

the independence of the BBC," Mr Foulkes said. "This is so incredible it is mind-boggling. It is unbelievable that such vetting is going on."

Mr Alasdair Milne, director-general of the BBC, dismissed the accusations as "greatly over-dramatised."

But Mr Alastair Hetherington, former controller of BBC Scotland, yesterday confirmed that all news and current affairs appointments were vetted by the security service.

In an interview at the Edinburgh International Television Festival where the story created the greatest stir of the day, Mr Hetherington, now professor of media studies at Stirling University, said: "When you join the BBC as a senior person dealing with senior personnel, you are briefed about it."

He had disagreed strongly with the system because it applied not only to the top tier of appointments but also to every staff reporter and current affairs producer. They all had to be cleared, he said.

Referring to the case of Miss Isobel Hilton, a journalist and Chinese specialist who was barred from the BBC in 1976 after being blacklisted by M15, Mr Hetherington said: "That case was a bad example of wrongly recorded, wrongly collected and wrongly assessed information. You cannot have confidence in a system like that."

Continued on page 2 col 2

Sri Lankan peace talks near collapse

From Richard Ford, Delhi

Talks intended to settle the ethnic strife in Sri Lanka appeared close to collapse yesterday after Tamil representatives walked out in protest over the alleged massacre of hundreds of Tamils by Government security forces.

Before, the four militant groups making up the Eelam National Liberation Front and the moderate Tamil United Liberation Front left the meeting, they also rejected Government proposals for increasing devolution to the Tamils.

While the Sri Lankan Government said yesterday that it expected the talks in Thimpu, the capital of the Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan, to resume this morning reports from Madras said the Tamil delegation would leave for India today.

The Tamil delegation walked out after reports that in two separate incidents, on Friday and Saturday, 300 Tamils were killed by the security forces in Sri Lanka.

The allegations were denied by the Sri Lankan Government but Mr A. Amirthalingam, Secretary-General of the Tamil United Liberation Front, said

there was no purpose in continuing talking when hundreds of innocent Tamils were being massacred and their homes burnt down.

The Eelam National Liberation Front accused the Government of seeking a military solution to the Tamil question, adding that they would be considering their position on the question of the ceasefire which has been in operation since June 18 and is due to expire on September 18.

They said the alleged attacks in Vayunia on Friday and at two villages near Trincomalee on Saturday, were premeditated and intended to intimidate Tamil representatives.

Since the second round of talks began in Thimpu a week ago there has been an increase of violence in the island, indicating that both sides were prepared for a breakdown and the resumption of hostilities. Though it was expected that the Sri Lankan Government would put forward more generous proposals, so far it has done little than offer similar ideas to those suggested at an all-party conference in 1984.

Train hijack, page 4

Inquiry into Thatcher's 'near miss'

The Civil Aviation Authority is investigating the "near miss" in which a Boeing 757 had to slam on its brakes as it was approaching take-off because the Prime Minister's helicopter crossed its flight path. It will submit a full report to the Ministry of Defence.

The Prime Minister was only told last week, while she was on holiday in Austria. A spokesman at Downing Street said that news of the incident, which happened in July as Mrs Thatcher was on her way to Washington to address a meeting of the International Democratic Union, only reached her when a formal complaint was lodged with the CAA by British Airways.

It happened on the afternoon of Thursday July 25 as Mrs Thatcher's RAF Puma helicopter, travelling from Wellington Barracks, approached Heathrow airport. The Boeing was ordered to abort take-off by air traffic control. It had been travelling only 27mph slower than the maximum speed beyond which it is impossible to stop.

The flight eventually took off 55 minutes late, after the brakes had cooled down, and the used fuel had been replaced.

"Instructions were given to abort the take-off for the Frankfurt flight because of the danger of a collision. The aircraft later took off without incident," said a British Airways spokesman.

One of Mrs Thatcher's staff, who accompanied the Prime Minister on her trip to Washington, said those in the helicopter were "completely unaware of anything happening."

The helicopter landed safely and Mrs Thatcher later transferred to an RAF VC 10.

The incident is confirmed as having happened at 3.57pm, just after Mrs Thatcher had finished Prime Minister's Question Time in the House of Commons.

McKean makes his name with a coup in Moscow

Tom McKean, a £60 a week labourer for Mollweil Court, won the race of his life in Moscow yesterday to help Britain's men finish fourth in the European Cup athletics event.

McKean, little known until he beat Steve Cram in Gateshead two months ago, sprinted home at the end of a rough 800 metres ahead of six men with faster times than himself.

John Herbert provided another surprise in the triple jump, becoming Britain's fourth winner following Cram and Zola Budd's victories on Saturday.

Britain's women equalled their best performance in the competition by finishing third. The Russians won both the men's and women's events.



Tom McKean winning the 800 metres

The looting of Gandhi's South African legacy

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Priceless artefacts and relics of Mahatma Gandhi's sojourn in South Africa were destroyed in the Phoenix Settlement was looted and destroyed in the rioting which swept Durban's Indian and African townships a week ago.

The Phoenix Settlement Committee met yesterday to draw up an inventory of what has gone and what has been salvaged.

Mrs Ella Ramgobin, Gandhi's granddaughter and a leading figure in the South African civil rights movement, is on the trail of a pair of gold-rimmed spectacles which belonged to him. "I've heard that a child at a school in Phoenix has been showing them to his friends," she said.

Her husband, Mr Mewa Ramgobin, was one of six anti-apartheid activists who took refuge in the British Consulate in Durban last year and is among 16 people on trial for treason in the Natal Supreme Court. His wife was the victim of a banning order between 1973 and 1981.

She remains convinced that the philosophy of passive resistance which Gandhi formulated during his years in South Africa from 1893 to 1915 is still relevant to political protest.

The settlement was established by Gandhi on a farm 15 miles outside Durban as a non-violent, self-sufficient community. He named his house "Savodaya" - for the welfare of all.

On the front of the wood and

corrugated-iron dwelling was the nameplate "M. K. Gandhi", which he had originally erected outside his law office in Durban. Inside, through a pannelled door inlaid with stained glass, stood a spinning wheel on which he wove the fabric for his spartan dhotis and clothes for other people in the settlement.

An annex to the house preserved bound volumes of Indian Opinion, the weekly newspaper he founded in 1903 to serve "the interests of Indians in South Africa" and in which he set out his philosophy. It was published until 1964.

Mrs Ramgobin, aged 45, was born on the settlement. Her late father, Mr Manilal Gandhi, became editor of Indian Opinion.

She has no idea how much

has been lost. She hopes some things were saved by settlement residents and will come to light in the inventory.

"We found bits of the spinning wheel, on which my mother also worked, in the rubble," she said. "There may be enough left of it to enable it to be restored."

The pannelled, inlaid door was destroyed and much of the furniture damaged beyond repair. No one knows what has happened to the historic nameplate.

The attack came at the height of the Durban riots which appear to have been caused by the refusal of some black school principals to support a boycott of classes as a sign of mourning for Mrs Victoria Mxenge, the United Democratic Front law-

yer shot dead outside her home in Umlazi.

As student leaders tried to enforce the boycott they clashed with supporters of Chief Gatsha Buthelezi's Zulu Inkatha movement, who are strongly opposed to the UDF.

Hundreds of Indian families fled to Phoenix as African mobs pillaged and looted. Then the mobs attacked the settlement.

Before they reached it, gangs of Indian youths rampaged through it, smashing doors and windows and claiming they were doing it to prevent Africans from destroying Indian property. It appears, however, they might have been supporters of Solidarity, the majority party in the House of Delegates, the Indian chamber of Parliament.

Labour dilemma on NUM refunds

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Miners' leaders and senior Labour Party officials are negotiating a compromise to avert a split over the demand that a future Labour government should legislate to reimburse the union for money seized by the courts during the 12-month strike.

Identical motions tabled by the National Union of Mineworkers for next month's Trades Union Congress and for the Labour Party conference in October call on a future Labour government to refund to the miners' union and other unions "all monies confiscated from it as a result of fines, sequestration, receivership, legal and other costs."

The prospect of facing a commitment to repay fines, some of which might have been incurred after criminal acts, encouraged the party to seek a deal with the union and a secret top-level meeting earlier this month is understood to have agreed the framework for the compromise.

Mr Arthur Scargill, the miners' union's president, and Mr Peter Heathfield, its general secretary, met Mr Larry Whitty, Labour's new general secretary, and Mr Stanley Orme, the party's front-bench energy spokesman, and gave the party officials a promise that in speeches to both conferences the union would make clear that it was seeking only the return of money seized as a result of sequestration or receivership orders.

Miners' union officials understand that Mr Whitty and Mr Orme found that acceptable and indicated that as a result the party leadership was now not likely to oppose the motion at the Labour conference.

A similar suggestion by the union to the TUC could also minimize some of the criticism expected at the Blackpool congress.

The National Communications Union has tabled an amendment to the miners' motion which specifically removes any reference to repayment of fines. However, while the miners' union will explain that it is not seeking reimbursement of fines imposed on individual members, the position on contempt of court fines is not clear.

The union nationally was fined £200,000 in November for refusing to obey a court ruling banning descriptions of the strike as official and the South Wales area was also fined £50,000 for ignoring an injunction outlawing secondary action against a haulage company.

It is thought that the miners may not seek to have repayment of those fines included in a programme of prospective legislation for a Labour government.

Miners vote and the rift looms, page 2

Dismissal for guards who defy ultimatum

By Our Labour Correspondent

British Rail was preparing last night to send dismissal notices to a further 90 guards following the decision by members of the National Union of Railwaymen at Llanelly, south Wales, to defy a management return to work ultimatum.

BR managers are hoping that some guards at Llanelly and Margam, where a meeting on Saturday also voted to continue a five-week strike, will return to work today. Those who do not will be sent dismissal notices similar to those sent at the weekend to 147 striking Glasgow guards.

National Union of Railwaymen leaders are due to meet BR tomorrow to demand withdrawal of the dismissal notices, something which, on early indications, the management is not prepared to countenance.

The meeting may be widened to take in discussions on the controversial issue of driver-only operations, which is at the centre of the strike, although last night Mr Jimmy Knapp, NUR general secretary, said: "My only remit is to discuss the dismissals and make it plain we are not going to bend the knee in the face of this intimidation."

The 32 Llanelly guards voted to stay on strike after hearing from two members of the NUR national executive, who also persuaded the Margam guards to reject the initial advice of their local leaders to return to work. BR managers in south Wales believe the two votes were close and that many guards will report for work.

BR is determined to continue testing the resolve of the guards and today will again attempt to run an iron ore train without a guard to the Llanwern steel-works. A similar move five weeks ago led to the walkout at Margam, and Llanelly followed in sympathy.

Last night leaders of almost 100 guards based at the Severn Tunnel junction gave a warning that they will take immediate industrial action if any of the south Wales guards are dismissed, although the union's national leadership will probably try to damp down rebellion in order to contain the size of the dispute.

Mr John Palette, BR's managing director of personnel, said on BBC Radio yesterday that management considered that the union had persuaded the south Wales guards to continue the dispute.

"This was being interpreted in the industry as a veiled threat that BR is considering legal action against the NUR for encouraging its members to strike without a ballot."

Mr Palette said he accepted the NUR argument that there was no national agreement covering driver-only operation. But he pointed out that BR was not yet asking for implementation only for trials and negotiations on its introduction.



Mr Arthur Scargill addressing about 50 miners from an upturned milk crate yesterday after he was locked out of Blidworth miners' welfare club in the rebel Nottinghamshire coalfield (Photograph: Phil O'Brien)

Rescuers find 747 victims' last words

Tokyo (Reuters) - Scribbled notes from passengers, the words of a survivor and the first cockpit voice recorder transcripts have etched the grim end of the Japan Air Lines Boeing 747 flight which crashed into a remote mountain forest, last Monday.

By nightfall on the sixth day of the search for bodies scattered on Mount Osutaka, 47 of the 520 people who died were still missing.

Funerals for those identified began yesterday. Only four people survived the world's worst single-aircraft crash.

The passengers knew of the aircraft's problems as a bang at the back of the plane and white mist filling the cabin.

Hiroji Kawaguchi, aged 52, a shipping line manager, began to write: "To my three children. Take care of your mother. The aircraft is nosediving. White smoke is coming out of the back. We may only have five more minutes. I don't want to get on an aircraft ever again."

The note, hastily penned in his company diary, said goodbye to his wife, son and two daughters, then continued: "There is no hope. It was a happy life for me. Thank you all."

A few seats away Masakatsu Taniguchi, aged 40, a chemical firm worker and a scoutmaster, grabbed the airline disposal bag in front of him. To his wife, he wrote: "Machiko, take care of

the kids," and slipped the message into his driving licence.

The hastily penned notes were discovered in the tangled metal, mud and charred forest marking the end of flight 123.

Yesterday, sections of the tail were still being washed ashore, providing clues for the investigators, while the first transcripts of the cockpit voice recorder caught the words: "Up, up." These were followed by: "Down, down."

Bulkhead cleared: Japan Air Lines has denied that anything was wrong with the rear bulkhead in response to reports that a rupture in this part of the aircraft may have blown away the tail-fin and caused the fatal crash (Hikaru Kerns writes).

"As far as we are concerned the bulkhead was okay," an airline spokesman, Mr Geoffrey Tudor, said yesterday. Mr Tudor said Boeing officials at the crash site told JAL that they found no sign of pre-crash rupture or cracking in the bulkhead.

Earlier the Ministry of Transport added the bulkhead, to the areas of Boeing 747s that Japanese air lines must inspect this month.

Yet another theory of the crash being pursued by experts, after examining partial transcripts of the black box, is that damage to the hydraulic control line to the vertical tail-fin may have been responsible for the pilot's loss of control.

Facing death, Page 11

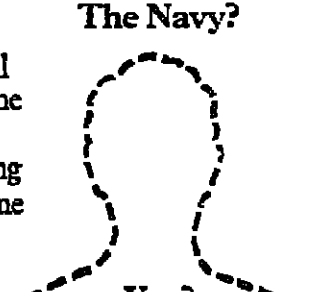
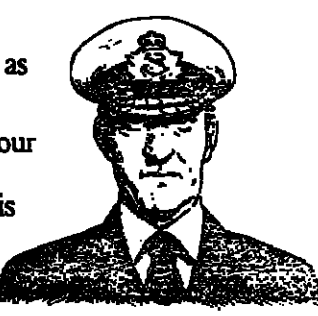
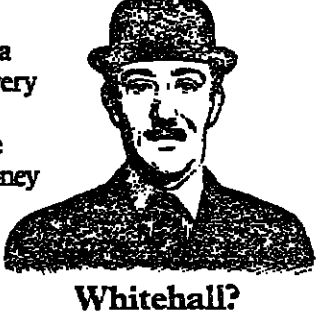
Guess who pays for the lifeboats:

Though we answer a call for help on average every 2½ hours - and last year saved over 1,200 lives - we receive no government money to aid our work.

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Royal National Lifeboat Institution

Ulster Unionists plan legal confrontation to force ban on Sinn Fein

From Tim Jones, Belfast

The two main Ulster Unionist parties in Northern Ireland are engineering a deliberate confrontation with the law as part of the campaign to force the Government to proscribe Sinn Fein, the political wing of the Provisional IRA. It could halt all work of 17 of the 26 local councils in the province and place a severe strain on the already hard-pressed legal system.

The Official Unionist Party and the Democratic Unionist Party are incensed that their members in local councils are forced to share the council chambers with elected Sinn Fein representatives who make no secret of their support for the "armed struggle".

The plan is certain to plunge the parties into protracted and costly court cases and the two leaders, Mr James Molyneux, of the Official Unionists, and Mr Ian Paisley of the DUP will appeal to rank-and-file members for financial backing.

Essentially, the plan was hatched after the events at Craigavon council where the Unionist majority excluded Sinn Fein, as well as members of the Social Democratic and Labour Party and the Workers' Party by forming a committee.

from which they were excluded, to conduct all council business. Sinn Fein obtained a ruling in the High Court that the Unionists had acted illegally. Since then, the nationalists have been excluded again after refusing to sign a motion rejecting violence.

To support Craigavon, and in spite of the original High Court decision, the two party leaders have instructed their councillors to find legal loopholes to challenge the Government's

insistence that Sinn Fein can only be contained within the law. Mr Molyneux states in a private letter to all 190 Official Unionist councillors: "Specifically, we believe that the Unionist majority on all 17 councils concerned should act to exclude Sinn Fein from council business by way of a simple resolution resolving that council business be conducted by a committee to which, naturally, Sinn Fein members should not be elected."

The letter adds: "We fully appreciate that this will result in an on-going legal action, but we are convinced that the Unionist electorate in Northern Ireland would heartily approve the use of public funds to defend the action in the High Court or subsequent action in the Court of Appeal."

The public appeal for funds will be made to ensure that "no individual councillor should in any circumstances be expected to carry any financial penalties arising from this action."

Mrs Thatcher has made it plain the Government has no present intention of making Sinn Fein illegal.

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Self-employed: 1 Redundant workers fight their way back

Faced with the bleak prospect of redundancy and unemployment queues, many people in south London are finding a solution through self-employment. Between 45 to 50 new businesses are opening every month in the area from Brixton to Croydon. In the first of a two-part series A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT talks to three men who were made redundant and who explain why they started their own companies.

Nearly 50 new businesses are starting in the south London area every month in the resurgence of self-employment, particularly among the young.

Small businesses and medium-size companies, set up with the backing of the Government's £11 million Enterprise Allowance Scheme, have injected renewed hope and created jobs in depressed areas of high unemployment such as Brixton, Peckham, Southwark and parts of Lambeth.

The companies have also added to the growing list of firms spreading throughout the more buoyant areas of Croydon and Surrey.

More people are branching out on their own using their savings and redundancy money to form companies as diverse as fresh water pond construction, book importing and electronics.

Self-employment has become the catch-phrase for those who want to fight back against unemployment, according to Mr Derek Attewell, manager for the Manpower Services Commission in the Croydon and south London area. He describes the self-employment boom as part of a "wave of optimism" throughout the region.

The failure rate for the 45 to 50 new ventures taking off every month fluctuates between 5 and 10 per cent. Unexpected illnesses and soaring rents are the two main reasons why some companies fail, Mr Attewell said.

"We find if people have the right ambition and determination, they will succeed. The success stories so far spell out a long-term trend of more jobs and expansion," he said.

His desk is piled high with hundreds of applications from people, aged from 18 to 59, seeking to start up on their own. Although the Enterprise Allowance Scheme has been going since August 1983, this year applications seem to have hit a peak throughout the country, but particularly in south London.

"Croydon and south London seem to be magnets for small businesses. I think the success stories over the past two years have encouraged others," Mr Attewell said.

The enterprise scheme has been expanded for 1985-86, taking the ceiling throughout Britain from 1,000 to 1,250 entrants a week. By the end of April, 79,820 people had participated in the scheme since it started. There are 525 people now in



Mr Wajdner who spent 20 years as a lorry driver.

south London using the scheme's £40 a week grant for the first year to help them through the early months.

All those to whom *The Times* spoke this week said that they used the £40 to pay necessary bills, such as electricity. So far this month, Mr Attewell has received 68 applications for new companies and he expects to get 50 off the ground.

Last month, 47 out of 88 people who applied in the area took the step towards self-employment. The rest would probably start their companies within the next few months, Mr Attewell said.

A recent survey for the Manpower Services Commission found that 42 per cent said they were encouraged to set up in business earlier because of the scheme. And 27

per cent said they would not have established their enterprise without a £1,000-a-year grant.

More than 70 per cent of those on the scheme said they would have branched into self-employment anyway.

"What impresses me is the growing determination of so many people, particularly the young, to succeed in their own right. Despite facing one obstacle after another, they still want to make a go of it," Mr Attewell said.

The south London success stories during the past two years range from the arts and crafts fields, retailing and electronics to engineering, printing and accounting.

"There are also curtain and cushion makers, burglar alarm installers, several carpet companies, numerous fashion and knitwear retail stores and many cafes," Mr Attewell said.

Mr Louis Wajdner, aged 55, spent more than 20 years as a lorry driver before he was made redundant for the first time in 1979. "I wasn't quite brave enough to go it alone then and got another job. Looking back I should have started the cafe then," he said.

Made redundant again last September, he knew exactly where his redundancy pay was going. With the enterprise grant, Louis's Cafe, a dream he had cherished, came to life in Peckham Rye. A few months later he bought his partner out with a £6,000 bank loan.

The £40-a-week grant goes towards the electricity bill. "I'll break even within a year. Things are going really well and this is a good location," he said.

The hours are long, from 6 am to 5 pm, but he now employs three people, including two part-timers.

His advice to anyone starting out is "Take chances and start as quickly as you can."

Mr William Harrison and Mr Tom Woodman, electronic engineers, formed their own company last March, at offices in Croydon. They now run two factory plants, based at the former Croydon airport buildings, employing 30 people.

Both men were made redundant when the plant they worked for closed down. Their company, Harwood Electronics, now employs some of their former colleagues. Their success came in filling a valuable gap in the electronics industry.

"We discovered many firms spent fruitless weeks searching for specialist electronics component parts. Production losses occur when these parts are held up," Mr Woodman said.

From an initial investment of £5,000 they are looking at a turnover by next March of between £300,000 and £400,000.

They were then asked if they could refurbish cigarette machines. "There are 250,000 of these machines in pubs, cafes and stations throughout Britain. We took on a contract and haven't looked back," Mr Woodman said.

Tomorrow: Other successes.

Sun shines on the romantic flying ants

Parts of lowland Britain, especially the south, have been plagued by swarms of flying ants brought out by the sharp rise in temperatures on Saturday.

During an ordinary summer common black ants - *Lasius niger* - take to the wing to mate over a gradual period. The long spell of cool weather has kept them underground, waiting to surface at the first sign of warm weather.

The large ants are virgin queens. When they have mated with the much smaller winged males they bite off their own wings, find a hole in the ground, lay eggs and start their own colony.

Bequest for newsreaders

A woman has left £50 in her will to be divided between BBC television newsreaders "as a small token of my appreciation of the way in which the news is read."

Miss Mildred Oldrieve, of Kingsley Road, Molesey, Surrey, died on June 1, also left £25 each to Alan Gibson and Derek Jones, of the BBC *Good Morning* programme. She left estate valued at £74,081 net.

Hang glider sets British record

Herr Antonino Madonina, 27, from Ravensburg, West Germany, set a new British hang gliding record of 62 metres at the annual International Birdman Rally in Bournemouth, Sussex, yesterday.

He was awarded £1,000 for gliding the furthest distance from a platform on the pier before splashing down into the sea. However, no one won the £10,000 offered for a flight of 70 metres or more.

Twin marks of distinction

Identical twins Paul and Graham Fulcher achieved identical grades in four A-level subjects, mathematics, applied mathematics, chemistry and physics.

The boys, aged 17, from Ashill, Norfolk, both gained a distinction in the mathematics paper and eight grade-A's at O'level. Both are now to reach mathematics at Churchill College, Cambridge.

Vauxhall-Opel prices rise

Price increases averaging 3.4 per cent for 1986 models of Vauxhall-Opel cars, being announced today, are due to improvements in the specifications and increased costs the company said.

The new prices are: Nova 1.0 two-door saloon £4,045 (formerly £3,966.51); Astra 1.300 three-door hatchback £4,851.28 (£4,688.07); Cavalier 1300L saloon £6,408.57 (£5,780.67).

Housing tower to be blown up

Northair Point, a 21-storey tower block on the Trowbridge estate, Hackney, east London, is to be demolished with explosives at a cost of £400,000. The block was built in 1966 and is one of seven on the estate which have been plagued with structural problems since tenants moved in. Repairs would have cost £4.5 million.

Police hurt in Guernsey riot

Three police officers were injured and nine youths arrested on Saturday night in what Guernsey police called a "riot" at St Peter Port.

Thirty youths besieged the police station and two police dog handlers had to be stationed at the main door to keep the hostile crowd at bay.

Murder search

Police have launched a murder inquiry after the death of a man stabbed during Toxteth Carnival in Liverpool eight days ago. Mr Jeffrey McNish, 22, a jeweller of Queenswood Road, Forest Hill, died on Saturday at the Royal Liverpool Hospital where he had been on a life support machine.

Microlight crash

Two men died when their microlight aircraft crashed into a field their homes in Spondon, Derbyshire, on Saturday night. They were Adrian Pritchard, 48, and Paul Keith Bradley, 24, of Malt Avenue.

Drake divorce

Charlie Drake, aged 60, the comedian, and his wife, Elaine, aged 27, are to end their six-year marriage. The petition appears in a list of undefended suits due to be heard in the London Divorce Court.

The Times overseas selling prices: £200 in the UK, £250 in the Republic of Ireland, £300 in the rest of Europe, £350 in the rest of the world. The Times is published daily except on Sundays and public holidays. The Times is published in the UK by the Times Newspapers Ltd, 1, The Quadrant, London WC2N 2AU. The Times is published in the Republic of Ireland by the Times Newspapers Ltd, 1, The Quadrant, London WC2N 2AU. The Times is published in the rest of Europe by the Times Newspapers Ltd, 1, The Quadrant, London WC2N 2AU. The Times is published in the rest of the world by the Times Newspapers Ltd, 1, The Quadrant, London WC2N 2AU.

TUC rift looms on cash for ballots

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The TUC annual congress in two weeks time is being urged to instigate disciplinary action against unions which accept government funds for secret ballots, in spite of warnings that the issue could split the labour movement.

Confirmation that the unions' attitude to the employment legislation is going to cause most controversy at the congress in Blackpool comes today with publication of the final agenda which reveals a wide variety of views on co-operation with the labour laws.

These range from calls for a wholesale reappraisal of the TUC's policy of non-co-operation with the employment legislation and last year's Trade Union Act, to demands that there should be no change in the policy.

The TUC General Council next week is likely to move to the next stage of disciplinary procedures against the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers which has accepted £1.2 million from the Government to cover the costs of election it has held for full-time officials.

A motion from the Engineers' and Managers' Association asks for that action to be dropped, but the National Graphical Association has tabled an amendment to the motion calling for re-affirmation of the TUC's policy of opposition and in particular a ban on unions accepting government funds.

TASS, the white collar section of the engineering workers union, is also critical of that union's action which it indicates "undermines those unions which are loyal co-operating" to the TUC policy.

The General Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied trades Union, whose general secretary Mr David Bassett has been instrumental in persuading the TUC to take action against the AUEW, is trying to pursue a middle course by insisting that unions should be penalized in the future.

The general council's own view, which has been drawn up in a special report to Congress, is that the policy on the employment legislation does not need to be changed and in particular it remains opposed to accepting government cash.

But that position will be questioned by several unions.

Mr George Simmons, the league's branch secretary at the factory, and Mr David Thomas, the chairman, were dismissed after visiting the factory during the night shift to carry out a health and safety check after an explosion on a moulding machine earlier in the day.

The union says they were dismissed because they were the two leading trade unionists at the factory, three other employees who took part in the inspection were disciplined but not dismissed.

The management says that the men entered the premises unlawfully, were under the influence of drink and were abusive to the changehand, seriously disrupting production.

The two men were taken to court on an industrial tribunal but secured a deferral of the hearing so that the dispute could be taken to an arbitration panel under the Blind Workshops' National Joint Council. The league says the men would accept the findings of such a panel but maintain the employers have been resisting the idea of setting one up.

The 128-year-old association, whose patron is Princess Alexandra and which lists the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Archbishop of Westminster and the Chief Rabbi among its vice-presidents, employs between 50 and 60 blind people and 90 sighted workers at the factory.

Southwark, Greenwich, Lambeth, Lewisham and Islington councils are to meet next month.

The union claims the faults reported at the factory suggest it is not safe for blind workers. The association referred to its earlier press release which strongly denied that its safety standards are low, and says it "deeply regrets" that it had to dismiss the two men for their "gross misconduct".

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Call to head off strike disruption

The Government should act now to protect Britain from possible industrial action in essential services in the approach to the next general election, the Institute of Directors says today.

Whitehall seemed to be giving a lower priority to limiting industrial disruption than to "interfering too closely" in unions' internal affairs, Sir John Hoskyns, the institute's director general, said.

Politicians outside government had started to produce their own proposals for averting disruption, he said in a letter to Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment.

"I am concerned that the government of the day, which is in the position to respond most effectively to the need to limit disruption, should apparently accord this a lower priority than a wish to correct anomalies in the internal affairs of some unions," he said.

"In particular, industrial action in the essential services, which has been rare during the past six years, may once again become a problem for the country as an approaching general election alters the perspective of those who work in these industries and their union leaders."

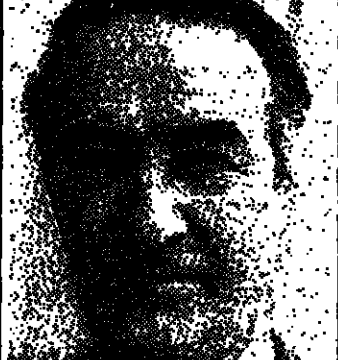
"The Government should therefore start planning now to cope with these difficulties and so avoid the need for last-minute reactive measures."

Sir John said that the Government's industrial relations legislation had been successful when it concentrated on "restoring the balance between employers and trade unions by means of restricting union immunities."

"Its attempt to interfere too closely in the internal affairs of trade unions have been less successful and to less evident purpose."

Orders are expected to be worth about £4.3 billion (£3 billion) in the long run, and though the bulk of the manufacturing would be carried out in the United States, it would leave up to £1 billion worth of work for British industry.

The Americans have been evaluating a British and a French military communications system for the past 12 months. The US Army is due to announce its decision before the end of the month, and the indications in the United States



Sir John Hoskyns

Pay increases average 6.5%

Pay settlements in manufacturing industry rose by 6.4 per cent in the past year, the biggest increase for two and a half years, according to the Confederation of British Industry.

In the past seven months the average rise has been 6.5 per cent, while in the service sector the increase has been 7 per cent.

Chinese department at Edinburgh University where she read Chinese.

Yesterday Miss Hilton, now a journalist on *The Sunday Times*, said that her interest in China was never in politics particularly, but in Chinese literature.

When she returned from a two-year British Council scholarship in China, she was invited by the head of the University's Chinese department to be secretary of the Scottish-Chinese Association which promoted cultural contact between the two countries, she said.

She did not recollect answering on her marriage status but at the

Britain likely to win £3bn order

By Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

Britain appears to be on the verge of achieving an outstanding export success with the United States Army apparently about to choose a British-designed communications system to equip 15 divisions.

Orders are expected to be worth about £4.3 billion (£3 billion) in the long run, and though the bulk of the manufacturing would be carried out in the United States, it would leave up to £1 billion worth of work for British industry.

The Americans have been evaluating a British and a French military communications system for the past 12 months. The US Army is due to announce its decision before the end of the month, and the indications in the United States

and in Britain are that the British system will be selected. The British system, known as RITA, is said to be the most advanced secure tactical communications system in the world. It was developed by Plessey for the British Army of the Rhine with which it became fully operational earlier this year.

The United States decided to buy a foreign system after running into difficulties in developing its own. The only effective challenger to Plessey has been the French system known as RITA. This is believed to be considerably less advanced technologically than Plessey, though it has had the advantage of having been operational since 1982.

The Americans are known to have been extremely impressed with Plessey during trials conducted early this year, and US Army sources have made no secret of their preference for the British system.

The British and the French bids have been made under the leadership of United States companies to compete for the contract.

The Plessey bid is led by the big American defence contractor, Rockwell, and if successful more than 70 per cent of the manufacture would be carried out in the United States.

Most of the remainder, eventually worth about £1 billion, would be undertaken by Plessey and other British companies.

Mr Douglas said that the use of the phrase "lost yesterday" was a mistake. He said that Ms Annette Withering and Mr Alexander Marunchak interviewed Miss Silvey, of Mortimer Court, Abbey Road, London, a day earlier, after an interview with her by Miss Withering the day before that.

Mr Douglas said that the interview with Miss Silvey published in the *News of the World* about 16 months before. The solicitors complained to the Press Council that their client gave no newspaper interview about her friendship with Mr. Emery since the conversation 16 months earlier until an interview with the *Sunday Mirror* two days before the *News of the World* piece appeared. She then agreed to grant the *Sunday Mirror* exclusive rights, they said.

Miss Silvey later told Press Council inquiry that, as a result of what was published in the *News of the World* and the *Sunday Mirror* had not paid the balance of her fee.

The Press Council's adjudication was: The Press Council has considered the accounts given by Miss Silvey, the *News of the World* reporters and the evidence of other witnesses. It is not satisfied that the interview with her was fabricated. Accordingly, the complaint against the newspaper is rejected.

Mr Alwyn Roberts, the BBC governor for Wales, said of the report: "I do not think it either confirms or denies anything." Mr William Rees-Mogg, deputy chairman of the BBC and a former editor of *The Times*, said: "All I can say is that you can take it for sure that when I was editor of *The Times* the staff of the paper were not vetted by M15."

Expelled communists rally round

Expelled Communist Party members are to hold a series of rallies throughout Britain this autumn in an effort to win back support.

The Communist Campaign Group, which represents about 40 former members, said it would also issue a "major political statement" in the form of a manifesto.

"Our main purpose is to win the Communist Party back so that it fulfils its traditional role in politics," said Ivan Beavis, the group spokesman.

The British Communist Party has been at the centre of a long-running power struggle between its Euro-communist executive and the pro-Soviet hard left. Differences between the two factions earlier this year led to the expulsion of 40 members being expelled and others being disciplined.

Among them were many leading trade unionists including Mr Ken Gill, general secretary of the white collar engineering and craft union TASS, who is expected to be the next TUC chairman.

At a London press conference yesterday, representatives of those expelled urged other communists to defeat the "witch hunt

Sponsorship of sports by tobacco firms should be phased out, ministers told

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

The government-funded Health Education Council has called for an end to all tobacco advertising and promotion, including sports sponsorship, in the next three years.

Sponsorship of televised sport "is making a mockery of the ban on television cigarette advertising," ministers have been told.

The council says that there is an epidemic of smoking among children, restrictions on advertising to the young in the "Cigarette Code" are being abused, and sports sponsorship is influencing children in a cynical attempt to use energy, fitness and good health to promote a product that puts those "sporting" qualities at risk.

Its submission to health and sports ministers comes as the agreements on sport sponsorship and tobacco advertising, which expire this December and in March next year respectively, are being renegotiated.

The council is appointed by health ministers, and in spite of allegations that many of the appointees are government supporters the council says it is unanimous in calling for a phased end to all forms of tobacco promotion.

With the British Medical Association now taking a vigorous part in the campaign against tobacco promotion, ministers are under pressure to take tougher action against the industry. Its products are blamed for 100,000 premature deaths a year.

Health ministers are sufficiently worried about the extent of smoking among the young to be planning a £1 million advertising campaign, with possibly another £5 million to come.

Sir Brian Bailey, chairman of the council, has told Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, that he hopes "your own well-known concern about the epidemic of children's smoking" will be "reflected in a much more robust attitude to the industry". In its submission to Mr Fowler and Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, who is responsible for the sports agreement, the council calls for all tobacco promotion and sports sponsorship to be cut by a third when the new agreements start and by another third in 1987, ceasing in 1988.

The argument that sport could not survive without tobacco sponsorship is difficult to sustain, the council says. "The Sports Council's figures show that tobacco companies contribute £10 million each year to sport in this country."

"The same figures show that in the 13 months prior to April 1985, 216 companies new to sports sponsorship put an extra £23.5 million into sport."

The council calls for tougher health warnings, and says that the promotion of adventure holidays, leisure wear, travel clubs and the like using cigarette brand names should be banned.

Health warnings should take up 30 per cent of poster space, all promotional material regardless of size should carry health warnings, and warnings should be printed on the front and back of cigarette packets, not on the side, it says.

The council adds that 21 countries, including Italy, Norway and Finland, ban all tobacco advertising, and that Australia and the United States now have tougher and more varied health warnings.

Sections of the present agreements are consistently breached or ignored, the council says. It cites, for example, the section stating that house brands or logos on sports equipment or participants should not come within camera range.

The code says that goods associated with tobacco products should not be promoted or advertised to the young.

On sports sponsorship, the council says: "We have looked in alarm at the way the industry has undermined the voluntary agreement on cigarette advertising by using sport as a medium to promote a product which kills tens of thousands of people in this country every year."

"Whatever restrictions the broadcasters impose, millions of viewers are being subjected to hours of television advertising of smoking with those qualities of excitement, success, fitness and sporting achievement expressly forbidden in conventional advertising."



Madeleine, a French girl



Cassie, a starlet



Edith Fuddle, grandmother



Joyce, a novice nun



Roxanne, a prisoner

Jennifer Saunders, aged 26, in the five roles she will play - a grandmother and her four granddaughters - in *Happy Families*, a BBC television comedy series written by Ben Elton, to be broadcast in the autumn (Photographs: Mike Arrow).

Theft puts orchid in danger

One of Britain's rarest wild plants, the monkey orchid, has come under greater threat of extinction after the theft of the only 13 seed heads in Oxfordshire.

The Royal Society for Nature Conservation, which gives round-the-clock protection to the orchid when it is in flower, said yesterday that losing this year's seed crop "puts the plant in jeopardy". The monkey orchid is almost extinct in Britain, reduced to the 13 plants in Oxfordshire and a few in Kent.

Who perpetrated the lightning raid on the chalk grassland nature reserve, on a hillside near Pangbourne is not known. "The person who did it knew all about the orchids and where they were," Mr Nigel Ajax-Lewis, of the local naturalists' trust which owns the site, said.

"What he did not know was that the pods were not fully mature and the mature seed will not now germinate," he said.

Botany enthusiasts scour the countryside in the summer looking for flowering orchids and the unscrupulous among them pose a threat. Other dangers are rabbits and walkers who might inadvertently trample the plants. To protect them, the area is gridded with string, the plants covered with wire mesh "hats" and a security guard paid £80 a week by the World Wildlife Fund to watch over them night and day for eight weeks.

"We have always assumed that dying flowerheads would be of no interest to anybody," Mr Ajax-Lewis said. "In future we will have to guard them for 16 weeks until the seeds ripen. It is going to be difficult to raise the extra money. There is also going to be the problem of maintaining a person's interest while standing guard over a withered flower - it's a bit different from keeping watch over a golden eagle."

The Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, south-west London, has spent four unsuccessful years trying artificially to germinate the seeds which need a certain type of microscopic fungus before they will take.

Should the plant thief be caught he faces up to £13,000 in fines. Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 it is an offence to dig up any wild plant without the owner's permission, but £2 endangers species, including nine orchids, are given total protection, with a maximum fine of £1,000 for digging up or picking each specimen.

Acupuncture aid in war against drugs

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Researchers are investigating the possible benefits of a form of acupuncture as a treatment for heroin addiction.

They are seeking the co-operation of addiction centres in evaluating the technique and hope to demonstrate its effectiveness with the help of volunteers under medical supervision.

The researchers believe that key chemicals within the body can be stimulated by applying minute electrical pulses of specific frequencies to parts of the body, producing a natural substitute for heroin.

An acupuncture programme has been running in a New York clinic for 10 years and is said to have helped 60 per cent of addicts to remain drug-free for six months or more.

The research in Britain has been carried out by the Society of Biophysical Medicine, a group of about 200 doctors, consultants, dentists, midwives and physiotherapists who are interested in integrating such techniques into their own work.

Mr Ian Ward-Baskin, the society's technical director, who designed the new technique, said yesterday: "We are convinced that it works. The

detoxification of a heroin addict can be achieved after two weeks of daily treatment."

Monitoring of the addict is then necessary for a period of months to see if further treatment is necessary. The method is safe, effective and non-addictive."

The society's research has led to the formation of the Acupuncture Aid Foundation. The Society of Biophysical Medicine is based in Salter Street, Stafford. The Acupuncture Aid Foundation is at 3 Elystan street, London SW3.

For 10 days the boy baffled police when he refused to reveal his identity after sneaking aboard a train to Geneva where he stowed away on a flight to London.

Eventually, he let slip his name and address. That led to a reunion with his mother at the Moroccan Embassy in London, and a swift return to Paris.

It all prompted the offer of a free place on the course. "I was impressed with his audacity and spunk," Miss Heath said. "I was very surprised and very happy to get the free offer," Miloudi said. "Much better than my first visit."

Stowaway returns on free visit

Miloudi el Majdoui, aged 14, the boy from Paris called Heathrow Harry by the police after he stowed away to London in January, because he longed to learn English, has spent the past four weeks in England on a free language and activity course.

"Yes, I gave him a free place; and he even won a course progress prize," Miss Elfrida Heath, course director of the Cambridge Language and Activity course at Moreton Hall, near Bury St Edmunds, said.

For 10 days the boy baffled police when he refused to reveal his identity after sneaking aboard a train to Geneva where he stowed away on a flight to London.

Eventually, he let slip his name and address. That led to a reunion with his mother at the Moroccan Embassy in London, and a swift return to Paris.

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Concern at high rate of illegitimacy

A national inquiry into the causes of a sharp increase in the number of illegitimate babies born in Britain was called for yesterday by Mrs Valerie Riches, national secretary of Family and Youth Concern.

Figures from the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys show there was an 11.3 per cent increase in illegitimate births last year, taking the number to 110,500, almost double the figure ten years ago. There has been a corresponding decline in the number of legitimate births, to 526,000, the second lowest figure in 100 years of records.

"The steep rise in illegitimacy is the second greatest menace facing family life in Britain today," said Mrs Riches. "The first is the decline in legitimate births."

"Numbers of teenage mothers of illegitimate babies increased by 9 per cent last year, despite the free and easy availability of contraceptives and abortions," she said.

She said the British Medical Association and the Department of Health "should be clamouring for an investigation of the root cause of this alarming situation."

Tourists return to Spain

The Costa del Sol in Spain which faced lean times earlier this year because of price increases and publicity over crime is now hoping to come close to last year's boom figures after all. Mr Pierre Turpault, a leading hotelier in Torremolinos, said yesterday:

Last year, when holidays were being offered for £69 a week all-in, a million Britons went to the Costa del Sol compared with three-quarters of a million the previous year. This year's figures will be somewhere between the two.

Next year other holiday countries such as Greece would put up their prices and tourists would flock back to Spain because it was nearer and because they knew they would get value for money, Mr Turpault said in Torremolinos.

Priorities next year were unlikely to be higher than this year's and because of the standing of the peseta against the pound could be lower when converted into sterling.

Stories about prices and crime had made many operators consolidate their rights earlier in the year with the result that people making a late decision to visit Spain could not get a flight, he said.

Mr Turpault is president of AEHC, the hotel owners' association, and owner of two hotels in Torremolinos.

Of the big tour operators, Intasun put on 50,000 extra seats from July as demand began to build, and Thomas Cook 5,000. Mr Carlos Gill, of the Torremolinos Promotions Board, said:

Police now carried a vocabulary book covering different eventualities and tourists were given leaflets in their own languages with advice on personal safety. Police strength has been increased.

Mr Gill said that most petty crime such as bag snatching was done by people with a drug problem.

He added: "We had nothing like that only five years ago and it mushroomed before we noticed. Now we have identified the problem and it is under control."

"Eight out of 10 of the prisoners in jail in Marbella are foreigners, there for trying to use fraudulent cheque cards and breaking into property."

Irish call for crisis action over harvest

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The Irish Farmers' Association has called on its Government to take emergency action to alleviate the effects of a prospective disastrous harvest.

After weeks of heavy rain, much of the countryside is flooded. It is estimated that between 80 and 90 per cent of the hay crop has been lost, and fields of barley and wheat are sodden and impassable.

The association's executive is to hold an emergency meeting tomorrow and Mr Joe Rea, its president, has asked Mr Austin Deasy, the Minister of Agriculture, to declare a "national catastrophe" and request to Brussels for aid from the EEC disaster fund is also being considered.

According to Mr Rea, more than £50 million worth of winter fodder has been destroyed since June. Cattle prices have plummeted at auction markets, as farmers have been panicked into selling livestock prematurely.

Equally serious for an economy still heavily dependent on agriculture is that, unless the weather improves, the grain and potato crops, worth about £200 million, are also in danger.

Mr Michael Noonan, the Opposition agriculture spokesman, has suggested that students at agricultural colleges should be drafted, and government-owned machinery deployed, to help farmers in the worst-hit areas.

● Nine English Shire horses, worth £30,000, left their Warwickshire farm yesterday for Tilbury and the start of a month-long voyage to new homes in Australia.

Four geldings are going to the Swan's brewery in Perth to become part of a new show team, and the remaining five mares and fillies will be mated with English-bred stallions in Australia to help to re-establish the Shire horse there.

The horses are being exported by Shire Shipping, a joint Anglo-Australian venture set up earlier this year to look at alternatives to air freighting which has been used for several years but is now very expensive. The company has designed and obtained Ministry of Agriculture approval for its own purpose-built mobile stables which will be loaded on the ship.

Villagers fight council to keep No Place

Overseas visitors seeking their family heritage in No Place, Co Durham, are having problems because the county council has changed the name.

Durham County Council recently put up a sign which gives the village the name of Co-operative Villas and the locals are furious.

Mr Harry Dees, aged 50, landlord of the Red Robin public house, is leading a campaign to retain the old name. He claims council engineers made a mistake by deciding to use the name of a block of five old houses, owned by the Co-op and long-since demolished.

Mr Dees said: "We should be able to develop a tourist industry here, creating jobs, but only if the council changes that sign to the real name. There is no historical or legal doubt that we are called No Place."

Woman jailed after playing stealing game

A woman who took two of her eight children for a shopping "game" in London was jailed for two weeks.

The woman, aged 40, appeared at Marlborough Street Court with her daughter aged 10 and her son aged 12. They admitted stealing underwear, cosmetics and clothes worth £145 from Marks and Spencer.

The woman, who is on holiday from Saudi Arabia, and visiting her family in St Marylebone, London, also admitted stealing two track suits and her daughter admitted dishonestly handling them.

The mother had about £5,000 in mixed currencies, Mr James Bullen, for the prosecution, said. When the trio were stopped the boy said: "It's no problem. We have lots of money, we'll pay."

The children were conditionally discharged for a year.

Sinclair creditors meet to decide future

By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

A meeting of creditors which opens in London today will decide the immediate trading future of Britain's biggest home computer supplier, Sinclair Research.

Senior managers, probably led by Sir Clive Sinclair, the company's founder, will attempt to convince the main creditors - who are owed about £15 million - that an extension of credit is worthwhile.

The creditors - including Thorn EMI, Timex, AB Electronics, Barclays and Citibank - became concerned after Mr Robert Maxwell, the publisher, withdrew his proposal to take over the computer company with a £12 million cash injection.

A decision not to extend the group's credit, which has already been extended by nearly four months, would have a dramatic effect on the British home computer market with Sinclair products commanding 40 per cent of the market. The decision would also personally embarrass the



Sir Clive Sinclair, outstanding innovator

Prime Minister, who singled out Sinclair's founder as the type of innovator of whom Britain should be proud, and rewarded him with a knighthood.

Withdrawal of support would also embarrass those 40 or so institutional investors who two years ago were pleased to inject £13.5 million into the computer company, making Sir Clive,

who owns most of the remainder, a millionaire.

Sinclair management met each creditor individually last week and this week's round-table meeting will be to air their views in public and explore the possibilities open to them, other than to call in their debt.

It is unlikely the Sinclair group will be given an extension of credit without pre-conditions. The creditors seem happy with the appointment of Mr Bill Jeffrey, the new chief executive, from inside the Sinclair group but might demand more management control. That could mean the creditors would take an equity stake in the company, although that is not a view with much popular support.

Thorn-EMI, which is owed about £7 million, has been offered equity in exchange for debt before and has rejected it. There is little indication that

Timex or AB Electronics would also want a stake in exchange for debt. Timex, which is owed about £3 million, sold about 60,000 shares in Spectrum home computers earlier this

year to realize some of its Sinclair debt and would probably be interested only in cash.

Undoubtedly the competitive home computer market is one of the main reasons behind the current Sinclair dilemma. The market is still buoyant but an increasing number of suppliers from Europe, the United States and Japan has meant profit margins have been cut.

In the long term the computer market will become more competitive but it is still growing. The stockbrokers Wood Mackenzie predicted in May that while Sinclair Research may return a £5 million loss on last year's turnover of about £100 million, the total computer market this year will be worth £430 million. Next year it should be worth £540 million.

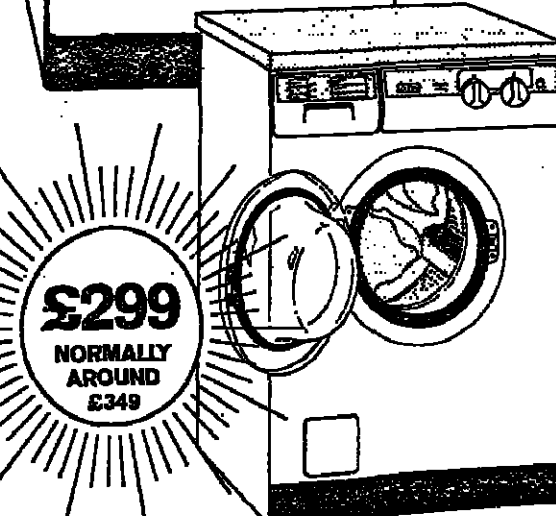
The Sinclair creditors will need to ask whether there is any money to be made in the computer business, even if the company does command a 40 per cent market share. There is no guarantee the dilemma will not be repeated, given the volatile nature of the market.

Bosch Summer Sale Bargains.

(Offer ends soon)



£299
NORMALLY
AROUND
£330



£299
NORMALLY
AROUND
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Massacre of innocents

Muslims await vengeance after car bomb kills 55

The family of Dr George Zamouti telephoned the Christian Voice of Lebanon radio station yesterday morning to say that he was missing. His car, they said, had been found near the Melki supermarket.

A professor of literature at the Lebanese University, he is still technically listed as missing. He has not yet been identified among the 55 charred and largely unrecognizable corpses dragged from the bomb site.

It was, by any standard, a massacre of the innocents. All but 10 or so of the dead were women or children. The car bomb on the noisy coastal highway up at Antekias had been deliberately left outside the door of the supermarket to kill as many as possible.

The driver, who was seen leaving his car, calmly shopping inside the supermarket and then departing on foot, must have realized the slaughter he would achieve on a hot Saturday shopping morning. Which is why, all yesterday, the Muslims of west Beirut waited for the vengeance which the Christian militias had promised.

For much of yesterday morning, you could hear across the city the gunfire from Soukh el-Gharb, the ruined mountain village where President Gemayel's Christian units of the Lebanese Army fought an artillery battle with their familiar Druze enemies. By mid-

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

morning, the Druze shells were falling into the Christian sector, killing at least six civilians, one a 12-year-old child.

Mr Rashid Karami, the Lebanese Prime Minister, described those responsible for the massacre as "wild beasts... who have no blood running in their veins". If Mr Karami represented the Muslim community, however, this was not good enough for the Phalangists. They blamed the Muslim militias, "criminals who... want a dirty war".

Phalangist revenge, the people were informed, would be "as powerful as their crimes".

Perhaps. But whose crime was it? The Beirut press was unwilling to speculate. The Voice of Lebanon insisted that the car bomb had been rigged in the Druze town of Alei. The Druze indignantly denied this.

Muslim militia Phalangist faction opposed to the growing

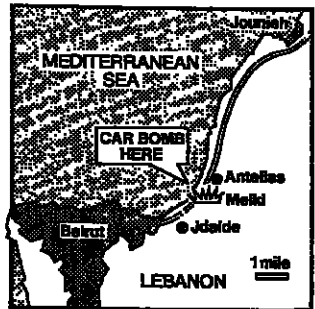
Christian rapprochement with Syria. If Muslims were to blame, they asked, why was the bomb not placed outside a larger supermarket which is actually controlled by the Phalangists and stands only 500 yards from the Melki?

It was a mournful debate for it could produce no result. The increasing violence in both parts of Beirut - the previous bombing in the east occurred only on Wednesday, killing 15 people - could only serve to destabilize Syria's efforts to control the Lebanese Government and break any confidence in Syria's own "security" plan for the Lebanese capital.

The human wreckage still being pulled from the ruins at Antekias yesterday morning was evidence enough of this.

Car bombs, by their nature, are obscene objects whose results are still chronicled with almost macabre enthusiasm in the Lebanese press. The reality of their photographic reporting used to support the theories of their leader writers.

"Israel and its agents resort to crime to deepen political divisions," screamed the headline of the Communist "An Nida" Mr. Camille Chamoun, the Christian Minister of Finance, blamed the Muslims for the 55 deaths and 119 wounded and demanded the removal of Mr Nabih Berri and Mr Walid Jumblatt, respectively Shia Muslim and Druze leaders.



General cleared in pistol-whipping case

From David Bernstein, Jerusalem

One of Israel's top soldiers was cleared yesterday of charges of using undue force while questioning two Palestinian guerrillas. The Palestinians died of injuries received during the storming by Israeli commandos of a bus hijacked in April last year.

Brigadier-General Yitzhak Mordechai, the Israeli Army's Chief Paratroop and Infantry Officer, was found by a commission of inquiry to have pistol-whipped the two guerrillas after they had been led away from the bus.

The Attorney-General last week passed the findings to the Military Advocate-General, who ruled that General Mordechai should face a disciplinary hearing before a single superior officer. Major-General (Reserve) Chaim Nadel.

General Nadel concluded yesterday, after hearing General Mordechai's testimony and studying the commission's findings, that the officer had used reasonable force when he struck the two hijackers with his pistol in an attempt to find out if they had boobytrapped the bus.

He said he took into account the fact that the incident had happened within moments of the guerrillas' capture, when it was important that General Mordechai obtain "vital, immediate information", and that the danger of further casualties

was "reasonable and decidedly possible".

General Nadel concluded the injuries inflicted by General Mordechai "were not unreasonable in view of the danger to life he was trying to prevent".

The commission of inquiry had established almost beyond doubt that the two men had died, not from injuries inflicted by General Mordechai, but as a result of blows they had received earlier when the bus was stormed.

The results of the hearing were received with relief.

Meanwhile, the Cabinet yesterday affirmed its full confidence in the Attorney-General, Professor Yitzhak Zamir, who had been criticized for his decision to press charges against General Mordechai. While the Cabinet met, members of the extreme right-wing Tzohar party demonstrated outside the Prime Minister's office, calling for Professor Zamir's resignation.

The issue of Jewish settlement in the West Bank town of Hebron was adjourned to a meeting of the 10-man inner Cabinet later in the afternoon. The five Likud members were expected to press for lifting the freeze on settlement in the overwhelmingly Arab town, with the five Labour members continuing to express opposition to any change.

Double lift for Peru's new leader

By Our Foreign Staff

Peru's new President, Señor Alan García Pérez, has received the two important boosts from the main union confederation and the second largest guerrilla group.

The Communist-led General Confederation of Peruvian Workers (CGTP) has offered its support for the President's economic austerity measures, announced at the beginning of the month, and the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement has declared a unilateral truce.

Señor Balentin Pacheco, the CGTP's general secretary, announced his decision after a six-hour meeting with Señor García on Saturday. The measures announced on August 12 included a 15 per cent devaluation, accompanied by wage increases, a selective price freeze and a limit on foreign debt repayments.

The guerrilla group had announced the previous day that it was suspending military operations "to give the Government a chance to carry out reforms in favour of the poor". The group also wants an amnesty for guerrillas, lifting of the state of emergency in areas where guerrillas are particularly active and punishment of members of the security forces accused of torturing and killing innocent civilians.



Smoke billows from the ruins of the supermarket as rescue workers gather shortly after the blast.

Beirut kidnap victim freed

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

It provided only a slender hope of release for 12 other foreigners held hostage in Lebanon. But Alfred Yaghoubzadeh fled home to Paris yesterday, after 50 days in captivity, saying only that "I didn't think I would come out alive".

His abductors, true to the xenophobia which is rife in Beirut, suspected that he was some kind of spy until convinced by both Yaghoubzadeh and his French employers that they were wrong.

A senior photographer with the French agency Sipa, Mr Yaghoubzadeh, who holds an Iranian passport, was kidnapped by armed men outside the Mayflower Hotel in west Beirut on June 27 while covering the TWA hijacking. He was mysteriously returned to the same hotel late last Friday night after his kidnappers agreed to release him.

His hair closely shaven and sporting a pointed black Islamic beard, Mr Yaghoubzadeh appeared to have lost a lot of weight but was otherwise in good health.



Mr Yaghoubzadeh faces the press in Paris.

Plea for Tibet support

By Amar Jasbir Singh

every human being regardless of community or creed, the silent denial of the Tibetans is a very sad thing," he said. "Apart from the moral standpoint, the British Government, among the Western nations, has had the closest political relations with Tibet."

He said he would consider sending a message outlining the Tibetans' plight to the Queen, who has accepted an invitation to visit China next year. Spectrum, page 10.

McFarlane pleads with blacks to negotiate

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The Reagan Administration, its policy of constructive engagement with South Africa in virtual ruins, appealed to black leaders yesterday to negotiate with the Government in the hope of avoiding "the abyss of massive violence".

Mr Robert McFarlane, the National Security Adviser, made the appeal as congressional leaders said there was no question of delaying a vote, scheduled for next month, on imposing economic sanctions on South Africa.

There are signs that the Reagan Administration, still hoping against all the odds to persuade Congress not to proceed with the sanctions Bill, is willing to support limited punitive measures.

Mr MacFarlane singled out two measures he thought President Reagan could support: banning computer sales to agencies of the Government which administered apartheid, and refusing loans to people who did not practice policies of equal opportunity, but the President did not support a ban on investment by United States companies, or loans for that investment, when it would help blacks.

In a scathing attack on American policy, Bishop Desmond Tutu, the Anglican Bishop at Johannesburg, said in a satellite interview that constructive engagement was an unmitigated disaster for black people. It was as evil, immoral and unchristian as apartheid.

He said he had never had such a sense of foreboding. "We are on the brink of catastrophe unless a miracle intervenes. I am scared. Barring a miracle there will be a bloodbath."

JOHANNESBURG: Bishop Tutu is unlikely to join a delegation of leading churchmen which is to meet President Botha to discuss the state of unrest (Ray Kennedy writes).

The bishop said yesterday that although he would probably not take part in the delegation which is to be led by Archbishop Philip Russell of Cape Town, he was still prepared to meet Mr Botha for face-to-face talks. Letters, page 13

Belgian vessel attacked in Gulf

Bahrain (Reuters) - A Belgian-registered oil products carrier was attacked by aircraft in the Gulf yesterday in Iranian retaliation for Iraq's raid on the Kharg Island oil terminal last week.

There was no word of casualties among the crew, who are thought to be mostly Belgians.

Meanwhile, President Khamenei of Iran had received 89 per cent of the vote yesterday after more than half the count from Friday's presidential poll.

Light on the faithful

Jerusalem (Reuters) - Israel's Cabinet has bowed to pressure from religious Jews and voted to end daylight saving time two weeks ahead of schedule on September 1.

The Interior Minister, Mr Yitzhak Peretz, an orthodox rabbi, said that longer days in anticipation of the Jewish day of Atonement next month would make devout Jews late for work unless clocks were moved back an hour.

Honour at last

Peking (Reuters) - The Chinese official whose seizure of illegal opium imports led to war with Britain and the loss of Hong Kong has been honoured by a statue in his home town, Fuzhou, in the province of Fujian.

Widow's post

Georgetown (AFP) - Mrs Viola Burnham, widow of President Forbes Burnham, who died earlier this month after ruling Guyana for 21 years, has been named one of the country's four Vice-Presidents as well as one of its several Deputy Prime Ministers.

Alcohol ban

Prague (AFP) - Czechoslovakia has followed Britain in banning alcohol from football grounds after the wave of hooliganism which erupted at the end of last season.

Murphy home

Amman (AFP) - The US Assistant Secretary of State, Mr Richard Murphy, left here for Washington after meetings with King Hussein of Jordan and Mr Zeid Rifa'i, his Prime Minister, at the end of his Middle East tour.

Jail amnesty

Jakarta (Reuters) - Nearly 21,500 convicts have been released or have had their jail terms cut in an amnesty to mark the 40th anniversary of Indonesia's independence from Dutch rule.

Ark hunt off

Ankara (AP) - The former US astronaut, James Irwin, has abandoned his plans to climb Mount Ararat in search of Noah's Ark because of a government ban on expeditions.

Cruise deaths

Abidjan (AP) - A newly-launched fishing vessel capsized on a test cruise in Ghana's main harbour, drowning at least 16 people.

Tiger, tiger

Delhi (AP) - The Indian tiger, facing extinction in the 1970s, is breeding fast and the population has more than doubled to 4,005, according to the latest official count.

Increasing doubts on methods

From Peter Nichols, Rome

The Pope arrives here tonight after his third African journey, with praises for his strong pleas in favour of human rights still ringing, but criticism of his methods grows at home.

The visit has provided an accurate reflection of the contrast in his complex personality. His showmanship has as usual been impressive, even when preaching his strict interpretation of evangelical views on marriage and family matters, views difficult for African ears. He acted as the South African tragedy entered a crucial phase and could hardly imagined a better opportunity to challenge apartheid.

No doubt his sense of humanity is unequivocally on the side of the blacks, but so is his calculation of the future of the Roman Catholic Church. Africa is regarded as the continent where Catholicism will have its strongest base by the end of the century, a base more effective than that of Latin America because the relationship between the Church and African society is much less complicated by history than that same relationship in Latin America.

Fully Christian, fully African

The Pope surprised most people during his journey by admitting the possibility of a council or synod of the whole African Church. He privately expressed his preference for a synod, but in a speech at Yaoundé to Catholic intellectuals he mentioned the possibility of a council.

The idea is an old one and potentially of great interest. It was first publicly voiced at Abidjan in the Ivory Coast in



The Pope surrounded by African bishops during Mass in Nairobi yesterday.

1977 during a symposium on negro civilization and the Catholic Church.

When the Pope visited Zaire in May 1980 on his first African journey he was asked to convene a gathering of the whole Church in Africa by Cardinal Malula, Archbishop of Kinshasa, who repeated his hope in 1983 during a visit to Rome.

Many African bishops who support the idea have in mind a meeting devoted to the subject of the Africanization of Catholicism. The Pope himself recognized the desire when he referred in his speech at Yaoundé to the wish felt by many Catholics to "be at the same time fully Christian and fully African", which was, he added, a difficult aim.

He is regarded as being much less convinced personally than Pope Papanicolas about the need for Africanization and there is a feeling that if he decided to allow a council or synod of African bishops he would want the theme to be specifically that of the family rather than the broader question of the presentation of Catholicism in a traditional African way.

The Pope's conservatism on questions of personal morality is at one with the sense of authority with which he imposes discipline. The consequences of his silencing of Father Leonardo Boff, the Brazilian theologian, are still being debated, as is the need he apparently feels to keep the

leading religious orders on a tight rein.

Father Boff is a Franciscan and has been forced to give up publishing his views for an indefinite period after being

Shock removal of Father Sorge

examined in Rome by the Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, the current term for the Holy Office.

The Pope has just removed Father Bartolomeo Sorge, who, for 12 years, edited the Jesuit periodical, *Civiltà Cattolica*, and has sent him away from Rome to do much less conspicuous work in Palermo.

Leading article, page 11

Christian family emphasized

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

The Pope climaxed his 12-day seven-nation African tour here yesterday, closing the 43rd International Eucharistic Congress at an open-air Mass attended by 50,000 people, mostly Africans, but including pilgrims from all over the world.

He emphasized the congress theme of the Christian family, conducting 30 African marriages and receiving renewals of marriage vows from hundreds of couples. The Pope faced a sea of worshippers who had been at the week-long congress, which was being held in black Africa for the first time.

In his closing message yesterday the Pontiff greeted members of other Christian religions and non-Christians. On Saturday he blessed a 250lb baby rhino - flown from an animal orphanage for the occasion - in a gesture of solidarity with the creatures of the world after he spent two hours touring the Masai Mara National Park.

Yesterday the Pope expressed solidarity with priests in Burundi, who have recently been arrested and deported for contravening new laws which limit the holding of religious services to non-working hours.

He condemned polygamy, which is widespread in Africa, as contrary to the principles of the Church, and reiterated his belief in the right to life - and his opposition to abortion and contraception.

In talks with President Moi at State House here, the Pope discussed developments in South Africa.

On his way back to Rome today the Pope will stop in Casablanca, his first visit to a Muslim country, where he is to be received by King Hassan.

Tamils seize 15 after train hijack

From Vijitha Yapa, Colombo

The night mail train from Manner in Sri Lanka's Northern Province was hijacked by separatist Tamil guerrillas on Saturday.

Officials said the plan may have been to attack the sacred city of Anuradhapura for the second time, but an alerted railway authority had the train shunted onto a disused track where it was derailed. The guerrillas escaped, taking with them about 15 passengers.

The Minister of Transport, Mr M. H. Mohammed, has ordered immediate cancellation of all night trains to the north and said that if the railway were not allowed to function properly, he would suspend all train services to the north.

Meanwhile, in Colombo, the Minister of State, Dr Ananda-tissa de Alwis, said yesterday that the talks between the Sri Lanka Government and the six Tamil separatist groups in Thailand, Bhutan, were expected to resume today.

Chinese weapons arrive

From Paul Routledge, Bangkok

Nationalist troops loyal to Prince Norodom Sihanouk are preparing a sharp increase in military activity within Cambodia after receiving fresh supplies of weapons from China.

As the dry season favourable to warfare approaches, the Sihanoukist (ANS) Army yesterday forecast that it will field 50 per cent more soldiers by the end of the year to fight the Vietnamese occupying forces and the "Puppet" Heng Samrin Government.

This prediction, made by Prince Norodom Ranariddh, the commander-in-chief, in an interview with *The Times* comes as leaders of the rival non-Communist Khmer People's National Liberation Front claim they have uncovered troops operating within four or five miles of Phnom Penh, the Cambodian capital.

The tough military talk comes on the eve of discussions in Jakarta between the Vietnamese Foreign Minister, Mr Nguyen Co Thainch and his Indonesian counterpart, Dr Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, the official intermediary in the Association of South-East Asian Nations peace initiative.

Asian has suggested "proximity" talks involving Vietnam, the Heng Samrin regime and the three-partner coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea. Over the weekend, Vietnam made clear that this

formula is unacceptable - though it offered to bring forward the withdrawal of its estimated 180,000 troops by five years to 1990.

Prince Ranariddh insisted: "Contrary to Vietnamese propaganda, the resistance forces are still alive and very far from disappearing. The ANS has sent 4,000 soldiers deep into Cambodia as regular combatants and we plan to send 2,000 more by the end of the year."

The Sihanoukists claim a total strength of 10,148 troops, all but 1,000 bearing arms. The Chinese have shipped in a further 3,000 weapons "so we can equip about 12,000".

Prince Ranariddh returned three weeks ago from a mission more than 30 miles into his occupied homeland, and he insisted: "We are very far from being liquidated."

Fanning out from the so-called Sihanouk trail, the ANS is setting up secret bases and arms caches for use in the dry season in about three months' time when the Vietnamese are expected to resume the offensive.

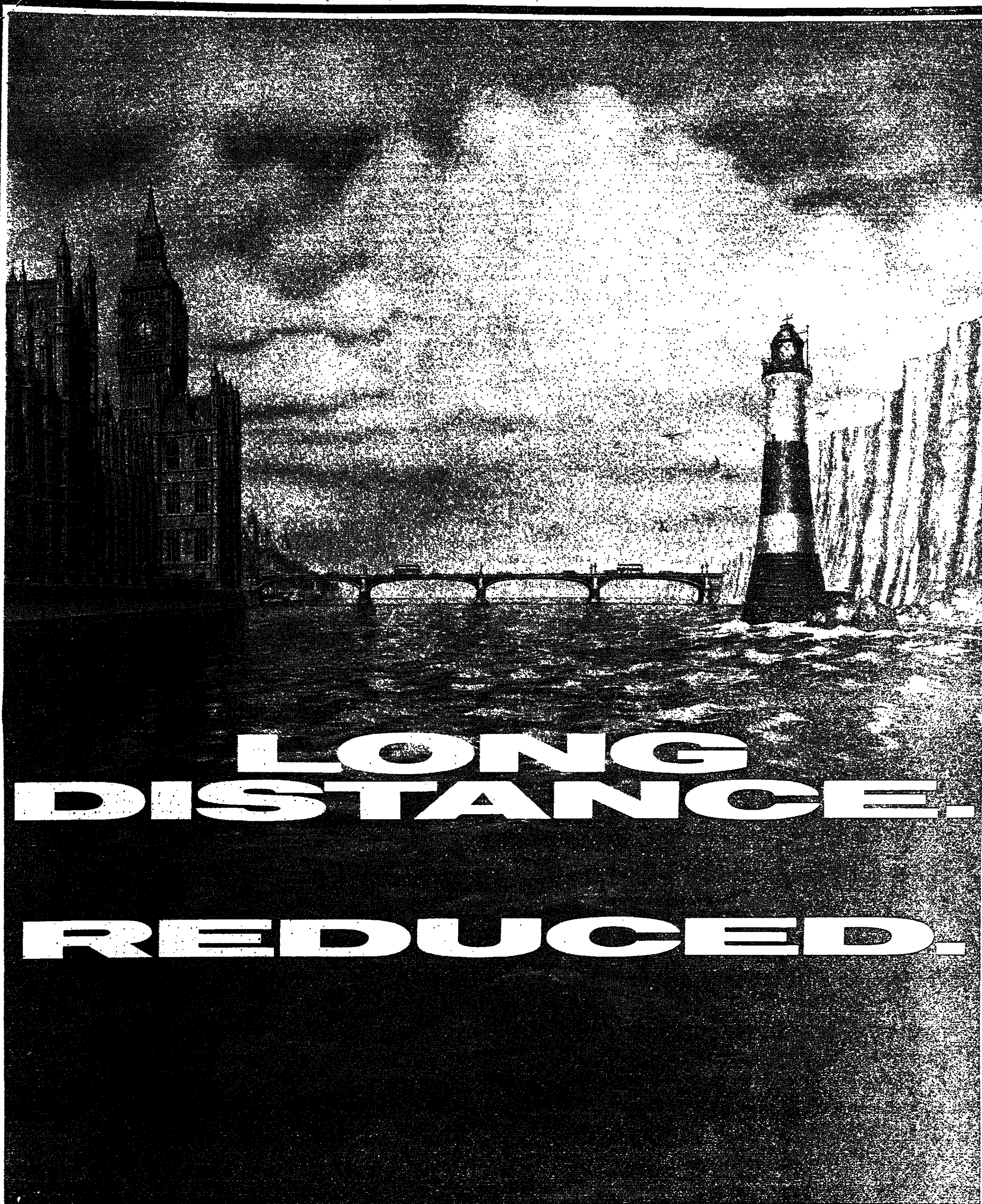
Last dry season, the coalition's bases inside Cambodia were wiped out one after another in a thorough Vietnamese sweep that lifted the number of civilian Khmer refugees camped on the Thai side to 250,000.

The emphasis now, argued the ANS commander, was to turn round the communists' own tactics and convert the conflict into a popular war against the Vietnamese.

By inflicting such military losses as they can, and heightening Vietnam's diplomatic isolation, the resistance forces hope to compel Hanoi to come to the bargaining table "without pre-conditions" to negotiate the establishment of an interim government of national reconciliation, whose job would be to organize elections.

Prince Ranariddh dismissed as "a political manoeuvre" the proposition by the foreign minister of the Communist Indo-Chinese nations three days ago, which promised that the Samrin regime was ready "start talks with various Khmer Opposition groups or individuals in order to discuss the realization of national reconciliation on the basis of the elimination of the genocidal Pol Pot clique as well as general elections to be held following the withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteers forces in Kampuchea".

There was no guarantee that the invading forces would actually go by the stated date. The Jakarta talks could be used by Hanoi to argue that the Vietnamese were showing flexibility, while the resistance forces were not.



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Replacement Greenpeace ship heads for Pacific

Amsterdam (AFP) - A new Greenpeace standard-bearer, a former trawler flying the US flag, left here yesterday for the South Pacific to resume the anti-nuclear challenge after the bombing of the Rainbow Warrior in New Zealand on July 10.

The Greenpeace president, Mr David McTaggart, said the ecological group was also "indirectly" getting information about the bombing from members of the French counter-espionage service DGSE, which is alleged to have been involved.

A Greenpeace investigation would soon be complete, he said, but publication would depend on a French official inquiry. "If France says 'yes, we did it', then it will save us a lot of trouble."

The replacement vessel, renamed Greenpeace due in the South Pacific late in September, will lead a small flotilla to Mururoa Atoll in French Polynesia to protest about French underground nuclear tests there. This was to have been Rainbow Warrior's mission.

The new ship, which left amid wailing sirens and displaying its Rainbow-and-dove emblem, is skippered by Mr Jonathan Castle, a Briton.

After its Mururoa mission, Greenpeace will sail to Antarctica. Mr McTaggart said his group had a new strategy for demonstrating in the Pacific, but refused to elaborate.

PARIS: The Minister of defence, M Charles Hernu, has become the focus of attention over who ordered the sinking of the Rainbow Warrior (Susan MacDonald writes).

It is accepted that the people allegedly involved in the bombing are connected with the DGSE. If it was an official operation, then M Hernu is ultimately responsible, and the French media feels that his resignation is the price to pay for that responsibility.

The Government and Opposition have maintained silence on the affair, but the president of the National Assembly, M Louis Mermaz, has implied that the "terrorist operation" was unofficial. It is hoped that M Bernard Tricot, who is in charge of the inquiry, will reach his conclusions by the end of the week. President Mitterrand has said that the results will be made public.

After the departure from Amsterdam of Rainbow Warrior's replacement, the French Navy has let it be known that it will not, as in the past, allow the vessel into the French restricted area.



The Greenpeace environmental group's replacement ship for the bombed Rainbow Warrior leaving Amsterdam yesterday, and President Mitterrand at the Paris Air Show with his Defence Minister, M Hernu, who may have to resign over the Rainbow Warrior incident.

Paris orders inquiry after Legionnaires run riot

From Susan MacDonald, Paris

The French Minister of Defence, M Charles Hernu, has ordered an inquiry into the disturbance on Friday evening in Kourou, French Guiana, between civilians and soldiers of the French Foreign Legion.

He described these events as "serious indiscipline on the part of the military". The inquiry will be headed by General Bernard Philipponat, the Inspector-General of the

Army, who has left Paris for Kourou, accompanied by the Commandant of the Foreign Legion, General Jean Roué.

The legionnaires ransacked restaurants and shops, damaged cars and attacked the population. Civilians retaliated with shotguns, resulting in the death of a soldier and leaving 19 people injured, military and civilian.



Security worries limit pilgrimage to Mecca

Jedda (AFP) - Hundreds of thousands of Muslim faithful have arrived for Islam's annual pilgrimage to Mecca, with more en route. But this year Saudi Arabia is seeking to keep numbers down by asking its own pilgrims to stay away.

About 650,000 pilgrims have arrived from other countries, and 150,000 to 250,000 more are expected from outside Saudi Arabia before tomorrow's deadline for entry.

An estimated 250,000 Saudis are also expected to join the pilgrimage, which culminates with a gathering on Mount Arafat on August 25 and 26. Because of security worries, Saudi authorities have asked Saudi residents who have already made the pilgrimage which Muslims need to complete only once in a lifetime, to stay at home. But even the expected 1.2 million visitors will cause the Saudis great logistical problems.

Canada-US relations: Part 1

Star Wars kindles fire in Ottawa

Canada is a country where foreign policy seldom generates much passion, but as John Best reports from Ottawa in the first of two articles, the present position is very different.

The nation is in the midst of an impassioned foreign-affairs debate on the main issues. Both sides are heavily on the case.

Canada's relations with its powerful neighbour, the United States, whose overwhelming presence is constantly felt by this country's 25 million people.

The first question is whether Canada should accept the American invitation to take part in research on Star Wars. President Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative.

The invitation, offered to a number of Western countries, has generated more controversy than almost any foreign affairs issue since the Second World War.

The opposition is against acceptance, while the Conservative Government, which will be one year old next month, is uncertain which way to turn.

The second issue is free trade with the US. It has not generated the passion of the Star Wars debate, principally because it is not so clearly focused in the public mind. But its potential impact on the lives and fortunes of ordinary Canadians is beyond measure.

A special Joint Committee of the House of Commons and Senate has finished a series of public hearings across the country on the two questions and is due to report to the Government next Friday.

The all-party committee, under the joint chairmanship of Mr Tom Heckin, a Tory MP from London, Ontario, and Mr Jacques Flynn, a veteran Tory senator from Quebec, was established to study the complex fabric of Canadian foreign policy.

The Commons opposition parties, the Liberals and the New Democrats, refused to take part in the wider study unless the Government agreed the committee should make an interim report on Star Wars and Canada-US trade. They

were afraid that otherwise the Government would be taking important decisions before the committee had even been heard from. Consensus on either issue will not come to the committee, but achieving it on Star Wars will take something close to a miracle.

The Conservative majority appears hopelessly divided on Star Wars, with some Tory MPs, such as John Gault, opposition colleagues and others strongly disposed to take President Reagan up on his invitation.

Mr Heckin said the committee found a "rather high temperature" in the country on the subject. In a month of public meetings the legislators heard 330 witnesses and received more than 540 briefs.

Those who supported a Canadian research role emphasised SDI's potential for eliminating or reducing the threat of nuclear attack. They cited the possibilities for job creation and for putting Canada at the leading edge of industrial technology.

Opponents argued, variously, that Star Wars would destabilise the East-West arms balance, possibly inviting a pre-emptive Soviet attack, that it probably would not work anyway, and that the billions of dollars earmarked for it would be better spent on helping needy countries.

To some extent the opposition is ideological. The left in Canadian politics, represented in Parliament by the highly vocal New Democratic Party, is distrustful of the American role in world affairs, viewing it as altogether too adventurous.

On the other side, a solid core of Canadians would never hear of parting company with the Americans on a major defence issue.

Despite the vociferous campaign against Star Wars in and out of Parliament in the past year, a recent public opinion poll found a majority of Canadians in favour of their country's participation.

Consensus or otherwise, a good many Canadians probably lack co-operation on defence with doing business with the Americans in other fields.

Tomorrow: Free Trade?

Ex-envoy accused of subversion

From Our Correspondent, Jakarta

A former Secretary-General of Asean, Mr H. R. Dharsono, stands trial on subversion charges today in what observers see as a test case that could bring at least nine other arrests of prominent retired Indonesian government officials and military men.

Mr Dharsono, a retired general aged 60, was arrested last November. As well as holding the top post in the Association of South-East Asian Nations, he has been Ambassador to Cambodia and Thailand and head of Indonesia's peace-keeping force in Vietnam in the ceasefire years.

A copy of the charge sheet obtained by The Times shows that he will be tried on seven counts, three of them subversion charges and all connected with meetings he held with members of the dissident Group of 50.

One member of the group, which the Government sees as disgruntled, has been trying to get back into power, has already been sentenced to 19 years in jail for his alleged part in planning the bombing of three ministers.

commercial buildings last October. Another, Mr H. Fatwa, is on trial, also charged with subversion.

Sources close to Mr Dharsono said he had rejected suggestions that he could either go free or get off with a token sentence in return for promises to cease all political activities, and his contacts with the Group of 50 and publicly admit the "error of his ways".

The charge sheet said that nine people who had signed a document asking for an investigation of the casualties incurred when troops put down a Muslim riot in Jakarta last year would be brought to trial.

Among those named were the former Jakarta Governor Mr Ali Sadikin, two other retired generals and several former ministers.

Since 1981, when Labour was defeated by the coalition, personal taxes have been cut and inflation has been cut by more than half to about 5.5 per cent.

Labour was favoured by 37.6 per cent of voters in a recent poll, slightly more than in the 1981 election. No observer would assume that Labour alone could win a majority of seats this time, but Norway has a tradition of letting minority Cabinets survive without too many crises, when that is the only alternative.

In victory, Labour would rather avoid a coalition and count on parliamentary support from day to day and case to case, notably from the Socialist Party and the Liberals: these two parties currently have four and two MPs respectively. If the non-socialist coalition finished in a rather weaker position, it could still try to stay in power with support from the right-wing Progress Party, which holds four seats at present.

The coalition has promised that by the end of this year Norway will attain zero unemployment among those under 20 years of age.

According to Labour, the Government's policy of letting private enterprises take over tasks in the public sector breaks with the idea of solidarity and gives the rich advantages over the less well off.

The coalition, dominated by the Conservatives, prides itself

Norwegian elections

Junior partners hold key to Conservative rule

From Knut Falchenberg, Oslo

The small margin shown in opinion polls between the ruling parties and the opposition makes it hazardous to predict the outcome of Norway's general elections on September 13, but the Conservative Prime Minister, Mr Kaare Willoch, has been facing some difficulties.

His coalition Cabinet depends on two partners who are finding it harder to hold on to their electorate: the Christian People's Party and the Agrarian Centre Party.

The coalition at present holds 79 seats in the 155-seat Parliament. Stortinget, but the three, campaigning as independent parties with differing profiles, have a difficult task in keeping a common front against the attacks of the Labour Party, which has 66 seats.

Under the leadership of Mrs Gro Harlem Brundtland, Labour is focusing on unemployment and blames the Cabinet for neglecting public health care and programmes for the elderly. She claims that the central government has so financially starved local government that the welfare state is at stake.

According to Labour, the Government's policy of letting private enterprises take over tasks in the public sector breaks with the idea of solidarity and gives the rich advantages over the less well off.

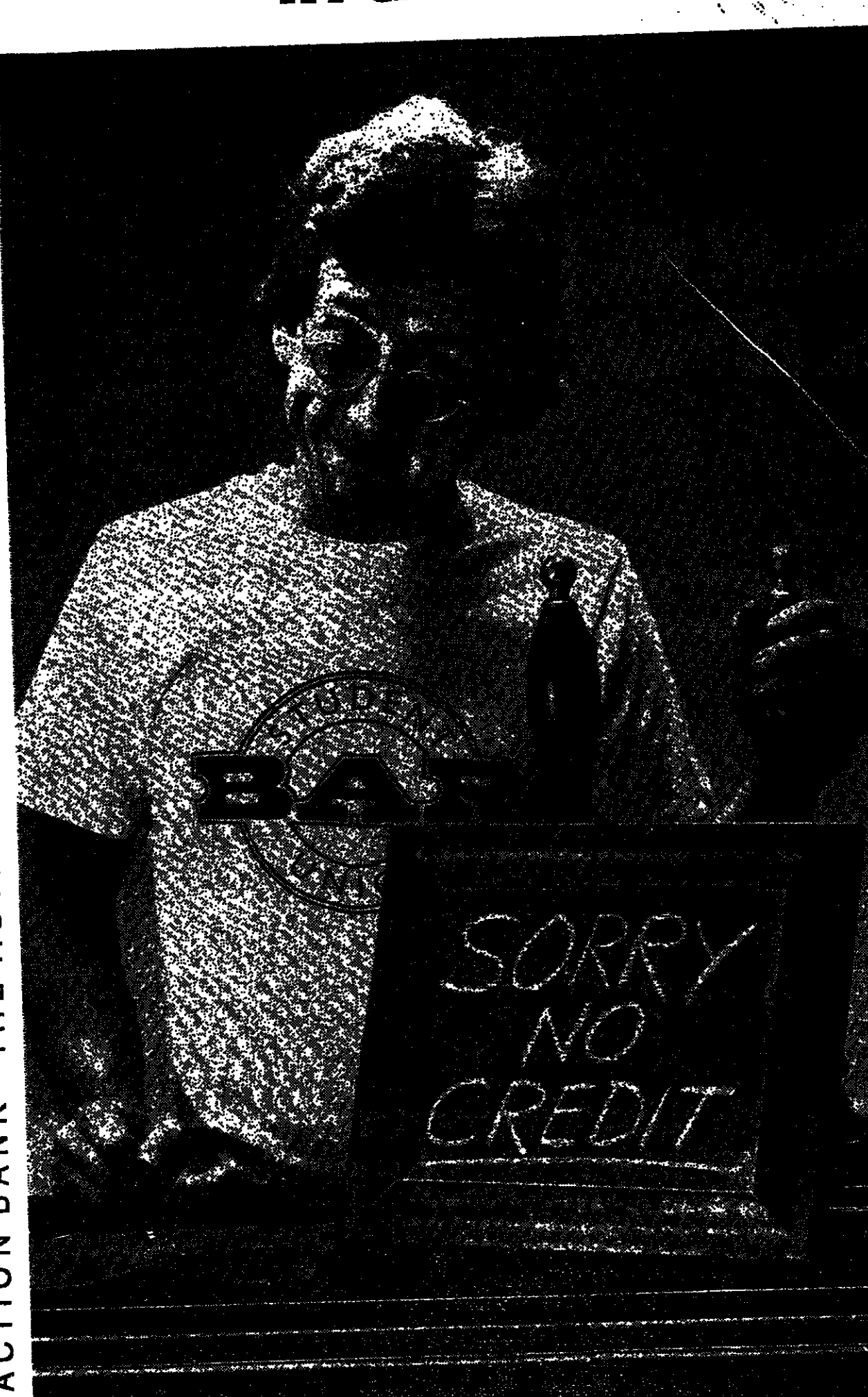
The coalition, dominated by the Conservatives, prides itself

on having deregulated in areas that were holding up Norway's transition to a dynamic society. Several thousand government regulations have been lifted, shops can stay open longer, state-owned radio and television have competition from new privately owned stations.

Since 1981, when Labour was defeated by the coalition, personal taxes have been cut and inflation has been cut by more than half to about 5.5 per cent.

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THE GUINNESS

FOR.

ARTHUR BELL share-
holders should accept
Guinness's £280 million
bid

The Mail on Sunday - 11 August 1985.

In America, for instance,
Guinness have a considerable
good marketing record and
believe they can bring their
skills to Bell with a
major advantage.

Daily Mail - 15 June 1985.

In fact both employees and
holders in Bell would do well to catch
a welcoming hand to Guinness.

Daily Mail - 8 August 1985.

Don't go Guinnless

The Mail on Sunday - 11 August 1985.

Even before yesterday's
developments, Guinness ap-
peared to have a pretty con-
vincing case for clinching
ownership of Bell. ~~For~~

The Guardian - 8 August 1985.

institutional
shareholders would be doing
their clients a disservice if
they refused this offer.

The Scotsman - 8 August 1985.

Where Guinness will un-
doubtedly score if the deal
goes through is in the tough
US market where Bells has
for long been seeking to es-
tablish a major presence.
Guinness's

The Guardian - 15 June 1985.

Time to accept the Guinness offer

TOMORROW shareholders
in Arthur Bell will receive
from Arthur Guinness the
document containing its
final offer for their com-
pany. It is a generous one
and it should be accepted,
writes Jim Levi.

It is matu-
rally Bells is
increasingly hard to p-
urchase the momentum and
C-
will benefit from the U
of Guinness marketing a
and drive Guinness may

"Lex" Financial Times - 15 June 1985.

Observer - 11 August 1985.

If Guinness
those who
be secure
improved

Daily Mail - 15 June 1985.

is an easy
option - accept the
new terms

Sunday Telegraph - 4 August 1985.



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THE TIMES MONDAY AUGUST 19 1985

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The Board of Bell's - August 1985.

The Dalai Lama: priest and politician



In 1937, in the mountains of Tibet, three holy men were coming to the end of their quest. Following portraits handed down to them, they had journeyed to the north-east of Tibet, where under the Kumbum monastery in the mountains, in a house with turquoise tiles, they found a two-year-old child, one of a peasant family of 16. This child, who bore holy marks on his body and spoke in the accents of Lhasa, the Tibetan capital, was to be proclaimed the 14th Dalai Lama, "Ocean of Wisdom", God-King to Tibet's six million Buddhists. Exiled to Dharamsala in India since 1959, when the Chinese finally took over Tibet, the Dalai Lama remains both a political force, as head of Tibet's government-in-exile, and a powerful religious proponent of world peace. In an exclusive interview for *The Times*, the Dalai Lama told Amar Jasbir Singh of his life in exile and his present links with Tibet, the country to which he one day hopes to return.

I met the Dalai Lama in the small village of Rikon in Switzerland, which this summer was briefly transformed into a canton of Tibet when it hosted Switzerland's 2,000-strong Tibetan community.

Our first meeting was at the Dalai Lama's monastery in Rikon (donated by a Swiss industrialist) and later in an air-conditioned caravan attached to a mammoth tent rigged to accommodate 5,000 of the faithful from various parts of the world. Security was tight, in marked contrast to the interviews themselves.

Here the atmosphere was relaxed and humorous and the Dalai Lama's renowned fascination with mechanical objects was apparent at once when he seized my miniature tape recorder and operated it throughout our meetings. The Dalai Lama believes that religion may bring down national barriers. No one who has met the Dalai Lama can forget that it is as a Tibetan he speaks to the world.

To most people outside, the life of the Dalai Lama was the most mysterious, the most exclusive existence on earth. Would you tell us something of your life in the Potala, compared with life now in Dharamsala?

When I was in the Potala Palace or at the Norbu Lingka (summer palace), I had to sit with my tutors every day and have lessons. There were times when I did not want to listen or to have a lesson, but it was difficult to get out of it, as each day the time was fixed. On looking back, I now realize that my senior tutor was affixed on time and even when there were 10 or 15 minutes to spare, he intended to use it for study. In that way, there was a sense of isolation. However, now when I recall those days, I am filled with admiration for my old playmates who entered into my games like children, refusing to accept defeat and competing with a will. Sometimes I used my position of Dalai Lama to try to bully them and felt angry when they wouldn't concede defeat. On the whole time passed easily, except when my teacher showed some kind of unpleasant attitude.

In the early part of my life, my third brother stayed with me. We usually played very risky games. I remember on one occasion we were hurling a kind of boomerang at each other and this time my stick hit my brother near the eye. He collapsed and started to bleed. It really scared me and the memory of his bleeding remains with me still. Stupid Dalai Lama. After some time, he left my

place and went to school and only visited me every fortnight for a day and a half. In Tibet, there is usually a holiday on each full moon and new moon. My other brothers and sisters only visited me very occasionally. Whenever my mother came to call, she brought our native bread for me, which was a great treat.

My everyday life in Dharamsala is essentially the same. Each morning I start my day with religious practices such as prayer, meditation, reciting something, reading religious texts and my own study, almost like homework. In the afternoon I give audiences, read papers regarding refugees, religious matter, the Tibetan situation. Then I never miss the early morning BBC Overseas Service.

It seems that the emphasis of your ministry is religious. Yet for Tibetans, you are their political ruler as well. Has the duality of your role as Dalai Lama been put aside and have you chosen only to wear your religious hat?

When we talk of temporal or political leadership it is associated with the Tibetan situation. Some people might take an interest in that, but there are many who show little interest in Tibet. Whereas when it comes to religion, Buddhism, there are no national boundaries. Although the majority of Tibetans are Buddhist, there are among them some Muslims and Christians and to them, as well as to those traditionally Christian countries, the message of the Buddha, the Buddhist way of approaching life and the search for enlightenment might be of some value. In the religious field, therefore, I can go straight to the heart of the matter and contribute in a more meaningful way.

As a Tibetan, however, there are around six million people in Tibet who trust that I shall not break faith with them or let their plight be forgotten. Morally speaking it is a heavy responsibility and it is my choice to bear it. After all, politics itself supposes a benefit to the people which, in itself, is an act of religion. In the Tibetan case, however, experience has shown that without political freedom, to maintain Buddhist practices has proved very difficult.

Tibetan refugee settlements, in an overpopulated and poor country like India, have been one of the few success stories in this age of displaced peoples. To what do you owe this success?

With India we have a very long historical link and more important the spiritual heritage has made the relationship very deep. What I



From boy to man: the Dalai Lama (top) as a small child after being discovered in a peasant family; above, at 17 on his throne and right at the Kalachakra Initiation in Switzerland last month.

usually call, heart to heart. Since 1959, when we arrived as refugees, the Government of India has contributed very generously for our rehabilitation. And then we have our own Secretariat and various organizations which form a framework for administering the refugee centres and projects which relate to Tibetans. Wherever there are Tibetans, whether in Switzerland, England, America we try to maintain our identity and cultural heritage.

Your life in Tibet was very private - you were not often seen by the people. How much has your personal life changed in this respect - are you now more accessible?

I think that when I was in Tibet, through religious teachings, there was close contact with the people. In another sense, of course, it was a very isolated position. My natural inclination is to be as straightforward and frank as possible. I have found that when everything is running smoothly there is a tendency to allow oneself to pretend that rituals and ceremonies show that all is well, even when there is something wrong. Then when things become really desperate, you simply cannot pretend any longer and are forced to come closer to reality. In my personal experience, this tragedy has taught me a lot. I think the Dalai Lama has become more realistic. That's good. So nowadays, I try to act as informally as possible, and through that way it is easy to be close to each other.

Have you left any family behind in Tibet? How have they fared?

Yes, I do have relatives in Tibet. Some are in Lhasa, some are in my own native place Takser. Of course there are restrictions, and no doubt it has something to do with them being my relations, but some have got permission and visited me in Dharamsala.

Do members of your family play an important role in the running of your Government-in-Exile?

I usually prefer not to have them in the main Cabinet-Kashag. My sister runs the Tibetan Children's Village and has been very successful and helpful. Then my third brother is now working in the Tibetan Medical Institution in Dharamsala. Some of my family live in Dharamsala and some are abroad.

You are visiting Switzerland to give a teaching on the Kalachakra Tantra ("wheel of time" text). Would you like to tell us something about it?

Well, you know Kalachakra Tantra is respected by all the different sects in Tibet, i.e. Sakya, Kargyupa (Red Hat), Nyingma-pa (Old Order), Gelug-pa (Yellow Hat). Although sometimes there is a different interpretation, a different tradition within the orders, which has given rise to great debates yet, on the whole, Kalachakra itself is generally accepted by all schools of thought. Kalachakra initiation with the drawing of the great Mandala (sacred circle) needs a lot of preparation, and it is not possible for one or two

persons to perform it. Therefore it automatically becomes quite rare. We believe that Kalachakra Tantra reduces tension, is good for mental peace and through that way for world peace.

You have now been in exile for 26 years. In what way has being an exile affected you, and have you reconciled yourself to being one for your own lifetime?

I personally think I am a very happy man. I really enjoy my way of life these days. Very fine. In general I believe that entire humanity is the same, and in that belief, I think of myself as belonging everywhere. I try to contribute wherever I can and to use my time as meaningfully as possible.

But are you reconciled?

No problem. Your Holiness, as the Dalai Lama you live by faith, by charity and, above all in your position, by hope. Can you tell us how you keep the flame alight?

I believe in justice and in human determination. In the history of man it has already been proved that the human will is more powerful than the gun. And also in the Tibetan case, the Tibetan nation has more than two thousand years' experience in dealing with China, with India and Nepal, with other Mongols and human communities. So although for us this is the toughest period, I quite firmly believe that the Tibetan people, their culture and the Tibetan faith will survive, will once again flourish. This I always believe.

'Britain's silent denial of Tibet is very sad'

The ancient state of Tibet became the Tibetan Autonomous Region within the People's Republic of China after the Chinese invaded in 1951 and the Dalai Lama fled Lhasa in 1959. The Tibetan claim for independence is based in part on the Simla Convention of 1914, agreed by Tibet, China and Britain, which drew the much-disputed McMahon Line defining the border between Tibet and India. Because of this treaty, the Dalai Lama places much importance on Britain's attitude to the Tibetan situation.

In the British press there have been articles very critical about conditions in Tibet, which have confirmed the brutality of the repression by the Chinese. Are you tempted to say to the world "I told you so"?

Oh, yes. As far as I can see, the important thing in world politics is that it has very little to do with justice. The only thing that counts is brute force unfortunately.

Why do you think the West has, during the 26 years of Chinese rule, chosen to ignore what was going on in Tibet?

Well, of course, these things are difficult to say in a few words. But there are many factors, and perhaps one essential factor is distance. Anything happening in the Soviet Union, for example, is sufficiently connected with the West for it to have an immediate impact. When it comes to China, people in the West regard the connection as essentially too remote, and of no immediate concern for them. Another reason is that there are only six million Tibetans, whereas the other side has a thousand million Chinese. So naturally people are inclined to regard the bigger one as being more important.

For example, the West does not ignore what goes on in Afghanistan, or, say, somewhere like Cambodia, because it is happening now. But in the case of the Tibetan issue, it has been going on for a long time. When it first happened in 1959, nations, journalists and newspapers took some interest in Tibet. But now, gone is the dramatic impact.

It is in the interests of the West to keep the two Socialist blocks, China and Russia, apart. Do you think that has something to do with the West ignoring the Chinese occupation of Tibet?

Yes, surely. By having better relations with China, they keep the emphasis on the Tibetan issue to the bare minimum.

Mrs Thatcher makes a great deal of Russian involvement in Afghanistan, yet she is silent about China in Tibet. What do you make of it?

Well, my feeling is that her silence is very unfortunate. From the viewpoint of a person who believes in the importance of justice and the rights, no matter how small, of every human being regardless of community or creed, the silent denial of the Tibetans is a very sad thing.

Do you think that Mrs Thatcher could have come out more openly?

I think so. Apart from the moral standpoint, the British Government, among the western nations, has had the closest political relations with Tibet. There may be some confusion in present-day thinking, but Britain, above all, knows full well the political status of Tibet.

Do you think that Britain acknowledges Afghanistan as a sovereign independent state but considers Tibet's status as part of China?

These things are very difficult to say. Very complicated matter. In any case, since 1950-51 the Tibetan situation has changed, although I feel that morally speaking the Tibetans have always been a separate race and separate country. Even in the early part of this century, Tibet had privileges and the independent status to make direct treaties with foreign powers, including Britain of course. As a human being, I hope and pray that these past relations should not be completely dead.

Do you think that you could persuade Mrs Thatcher to comment on Britain's treaty relations with Tibet?

That's difficult to say. No, I have not asked - not practical. Unfortunately, today, one or two nations are doing something wrong, and as a result the weaker nations suffer. So also, we fit into that category. Nevertheless, I feel a sort of inspiration in our own people's will, who remain, despite many tragedies, very determined. I always feel that things will change, will have to change.

There is this new dimension in British politics of China and Hong Kong. Do you think that, in these deliberations, Mrs Thatcher could raise the question of Tibet?

Well, I think the legal question will be difficult for her to raise. But the Tibetan issue itself, is still very much alive for two reasons. Firstly, that region of the world is not at all stable, and strategically, the location of Tibet is very important. Secondly, the people of Tibet have undergone such untold suffering that they are extremely dissatisfied. So sooner or later that dissatisfaction will surely open up. Therefore, anyone, whether in government or private organizations, who may have an opportunity to deal with the Tibetan issue, should rethink and review their attitudes. This I believe.

Would you like to see the Queen before she goes to China next year, and do you think that she should have accepted such an invitation in view of the Tibetans' plight?

I do not think there is any occasion to meet the Queen. Also there is not much to discuss or say. It is her own right to visit, to go wherever she wishes. Might you consider sending her a message?

I will see.

TOMORROW

China, India and the future

Playing ducks and drakes with nature

It may not be her way, but if Mother Nature would just give me a sign that my efforts on her behalf are being appreciated, it would make all the difference. We have done the old trout a good few favours since we came here and I feel it's not too soon to expect something in return.

Look at the balance sheet. Last winter I fed a partridge twice a day so he need not wander in the direction of the local guns. (In truth he wasn't really a partridge, he was a pheasant; he was roosting in what we called a pear tree, except that it was really an apple tree, but it was nearly Christmas). He stayed, but only long enough to see off the tops of my first ever crop: broad beans.

He paid a fleeting return visit to savour the tops of the early peas at the beginning of May and we haven't seen him since. I expect he's now so fat he doesn't need to bother. If he returns next winter, I shall

A COUNTRY DIARY



advertise the orchard as "a quarter-acre of rough shooting." Nor will I again feel moved to save a moorhen family from the local egg-snatcher. The day we arrived here an old moorhen was in and out of the brambles round the edge of the pond. We were excited. Pickford's men don't understand why, when you haven't got the wardrobes in, you should start asking them if they've seen a pair of

binoculars. Surely this creature deserved defending against the local wisdom which told me that moorhen's sole pleasures are plundering nests of chicks and eating tasty green shoots? I declined the offer of the egg-exterminator and decided to let events on the pond take their natural course. More of this anon....

Then there was the hedgehog who had picked any one of a hundred places to doze for the winter but eventually came to rest on the only spot where you could park the car and expect the make it to the house without a muddy paddling session. Naturally we left him in peace and waded. But he was an investment, surely? Don't hedgehogs eat slugs, and don't slugs eat vegetables?

It was a blow to find I have the only vegetarian hedgehog since records began. Spineless. Still, so far we had only kept Mother Nature's ball rolling in roughly the direction we believed she intended. The big mistake was to intervene. Thinking she would be pleased, I gave shelter to four Muscovy ducks.

Odd birds. Muscovies. Troublemakers. Football hooligans with webbed feet. It was only their touching bravery in the deep frost that saved them from the pot; they would tap at icy puddles for hours, getting only bruised beaks. How proud we were when the first eggs of spring arrived - and how sad when the silly old biddy made herself a nest and tried to hatch them. How do you tell a duck that no drake means no ducklings?

It was a sense of pity for the dear old duck which moved us to intervene yet again. I slipped six fertile Aylesbury eggs into her nest when she wasn't looking.

Twenty eight days later a cry from the lad next door: "You've got a duckling. He's trying to swim. The moorhen'll get 'im!"

I called for all hands. The trichers being on, my wife took some time to decide whether she wanted her country life ready packaged or off-the-bone. The old plastic dinghy was launched. Neighbours began to gather, muttering. Paddles were found and we rowed off in pursuit of the fluffy yellow bundle. The boat grounded. Too shallow to row, too sticky to wade.

Then, through a gap in the nettles, I saw a duckling stir. I dived in. We both lay still. The look of us will not be able to manage his Aylesbury bulk.

Exactly how he came to sleep in the bedroom I cannot remember. The books say that ducklings leave their mothers at 10 weeks, but since his surrogate mother gave up after half-an-hour to go back to her favourite hobby of cat-molesting, it seemed reasonable to give the poor flabby-beaked baby the shelter of a cardboard box in the warm.

Now, a couple of months on, I'm worried. The duckling is getting bigger. He panics in the garden at dusk, and every night is carried up the stairs, a bigger and bigger creature. Soon the two of us will not be able to manage his Aylesbury bulk.

We are slowly coming under siege. House-martins have built a nest next to the bathroom overflow pipe. We are only allowed two inch baths lest the gurgling disturbs the young. The Ugly Slug Ball continues twice nightly, unchecked by the idle hedgehog; and at High Noon in the backyard, beaks and cat-whiskers clash in battle.

The duck is a restless sleeper, too. If you're listening, Mother Nature, we are doing our best to help. But please, a sign, just a sign, that you appreciate it all.

Paul Heiney

The man who is Next in home design

George Davies sat on his Tricia Guild sofa wearing a not unnoticeable wasp-striped tie from Next for Men and the relaxed look that goes with a turnover of £160 million. He then proceeded to dispel the illusion of unassailable confidence by confessing that he was nervous. Not nervous of being interviewed. No, he was worried about the sales figures for Next Interiors, which opened last week in London's Regent Street.

Chief executive of Hepworths and creator of its Next chain of stores, he has been living and breathing furnishings for a year, just as he spent an equally intense 12 months before launching 70 Next fashion shops (now 301) on the high street in 1982. This time the way has been paved. Shoppers have taken Next shops - for men as well as women - to their hearts. All he did by adding furnishings was cash in on their confidence.

At 43, George Davies takes nothing for granted and thrives on the adrenalin released by fear of falling figures.

"It's not a question of lacking confidence, but the minute you lose the fear of next week you've lost the excitement of life."

Striving for success has been a driving force since he was a Liverpool schoolboy. He was brought up with an older sister by an unassuming father in the meat trade, and an ambitious mother whose strength still inspires in him devotion and admiration. Many of his friends went away to school while George went to the local grammar.

"When you are surrounded by the sort of person who cares about that sort of thing and you aren't one of them, you want to show them you can succeed."



Curtain up: George Davies, with the Next Interiors range

Not alone, though. Where George Davies goes, his team goes too. He has supporters with him now who have been loyal for 15 years, and who, in spite of frequent exasperation with his perfectionism and unrelenting energy still talk of him as the most stimulating, generous and kind man they know.

Competitors were not so complimentary when they saw the new Next Interiors catalogue and heard about the glossy new mini-department Next in Regent Street. Sir

Terence Conran, who was non-executive chairman of Hepworths when Davies created Next, sees the new venture as "very nice but rather limited".

John Winter, deputy managing director of Laura Ashley says: "We expected the handwriting on this collection to be more like Next than Laura Ashley. We found the prints rather insipid and wishy-washy."

This would simply make Davies grin. It was a former managing director of Laura Ashley who gave him the idea for Next Interiors. "We were both waiting to be presented to Princess Diana and we became

quite friendly. When he told me how well he was doing I realized that there was room for two of us. I wasn't out to knock what they are doing, which is a country look, but to put together a more sophisticated range that would appeal to men and women in town and country.

An accusation that does hit home is that he has no eye for design and relies on other people to provide the creativity. "I don't think you can use people around you like Tricia Guild and Liz Devereux-Batchelor (his design director and November bride-to-be) unless you recognize their worth, and you can't do that if your eye doesn't tell you that there's a difference between them and other people."

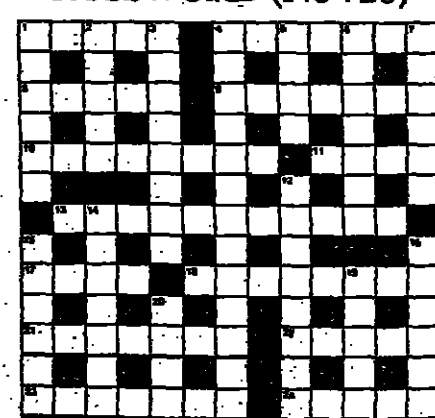
What you need in the retail business is timing - the right goods in the right place at the right moment - and he certainly has that. The future is the only place to look, and that means 31 more department stores by Christmas, a lingerie and cosmetic range next year, nightwear, possibly children's clothes and an extension of the home ranges, perhaps into lighting.

Good home design as well as fashionable clothes at prices we can all afford. That's what's next.

Beryl Downing

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23 Shards (7)
24 Abrasive agent (5)



- DOWN
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2 Make lively (5)
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5 Borrowing charges (8,5)
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Last week's air crash in Japan showed that a disaster's final moments can be a long time coming. Lee Rodwell finds out how people react. . .

Face to face with death

Most of us who have travelled by air have considered the possibility that the plane might crash and we might die. Most of us comfort ourselves with the thought that at least it would all be over quickly.

But, as reports of last week's Boeing 747 disaster in Japan have shown, passengers aboard a stricken plane may be staring death in the face for a long time before the final moments arrive. According to Yumi Ochiai, the JAL stewardess who survived, there were 39 agonising minutes between the bang that signalled the start of the emergency and the instant that the jumbo ploughed into the side of a mountain killing 520 people.

What was it like for those inside the plane as it began to lurch from side to side, backwards and forwards, before falling headlong out of the sky? How do people behave when they think they are going to die?

Dr James Thompson is senior lecturer in psychology at the Middlesex Hospital Medical School and has carried out research into human response to major real-life stress. His work indicates that fear affects different people in different ways under different circumstances, but the physiological response is always the same.

He says: "The nervous system responds massively and very quickly to stress. The heart beats faster, adrenalin flows into the body, there is a change in the flow of the digestive juices. Psychologically, we become hyper-vigilant, on the look out for a further indication of danger. Our facial expression changes - the eyes are wider, the lip comes up from the teeth. Emotionally we become detached from normal processes as if our emotions

were in free fall. But what happens next depends on the course of events.

This is the state the passengers of JAL Flight 123 would have been in at the first signs of trouble. Some might have felt sick, others might have started shaking. But what would have happened as it quickly became clear that something was seriously wrong? Would there have been panic?

Dr Thompson says: "The popular idea is that people under stress panic. But panic is the rarity, not the rule, and tends to occur in situations where people are trapped and there is a time limit or space restriction on their escape.

"If you are in a plane there is no way out while you are in the air, so people try to do things which will return them to some semblance of feeling all right. They will hold on tight - to the seats, to each other. Some might scream but on the other hand about 10 to 15 per cent of passengers would give an outward appearance of calm."

6 The nervous system responds massively and quickly to stress

People have different ways of coping with fear. Some convince themselves that the terrifying events are simply not happening to them. Some resort to hysterical joking. Some displace fear by getting on with their work.

Dr Thompson believes that the passengers on board the jumbo would have found it harder to cope with fear than the crew, who at least had something to do. The whole of



your life does not flash before your eyes, but when your emotions are supercharged you do go through a chain of associations very quickly.

"We still don't know what makes it possible to retrieve so much memory so fast. One theory suggests that we never really forget anything, but file memories away where they are not easily retrievable. Under a massive shock these memories are more readily available and the wealth of experience makes time seem to pass more slowly.

By the time the impact occurred, Dr Thompson believes that the passengers would have been in a state of immobile terror. He says that people can cope with one shock, perhaps two, but by the third or fourth major incident - yet another bump or lurch - the passengers would have been pushed past their limits.

Maurice Bailey came close to those limits when he and his wife Marilyn were sailing to New

Zealand in 1972. En route, their boat was attacked by a wounded sperm whale and they were forced to spend 19 days adrift in a life-raft on the Pacific before being rescued by a fishing boat.

Maurice, who now runs a second-hand yachting supply stores in Lymington, Hampshire, says: "At no time was there any panic. We did things so calmly.

"At night we drifted in such an oily darkness that it seemed as if we had reached the end of the world. I had no fear of dying but I did fear a lingering death.

"We kept our spirits up by talking about the things we would do when we got home. We talked about building another boat and taking it to Patagonia. It was as if we could ensure we had a future by planning it all down to the last detail."

Unlike airline passengers caught up in a crisis over which they can exert no control, the Baileys were

able to influence their chances of survival. The day-to-day business of getting enough to eat and drink helped to occupy their minds.

But Leo Dickinson, a film-maker from Old Sodbury, near Bristol, found out how quickly fear can affect you when he was cave diving at Wookey Hole in Somerset.

"On the way down I'd used more air than I should have done so I made the mistake of thinking I'd swim up as quickly as possible. Of course, the faster you swim, the more air you use up. Another diver was meant to be right behind me but, because he was carrying a rucksack, he could not keep up."

"I swung round to look for the other diver but he wasn't there. All I could see was blackness. In my panic I started to gasp air more quickly and I somehow managed to drag the mouthpiece right out of my mouth. Then I knocked my mask off. I remember thinking: 'This is it. I've blown it.' In fact I had a perfectly

good cylinder of air on the other side but I wasn't thinking rationally. I thought of Mandy my wife and how I wouldn't see her again. I felt it was a waste, not just of my life, but for her, how hurt she would be.

"I got tunnel vision: the pencil beam of light which illuminated about six to ten feet ahead of me seemed to lessen. I thought the light represented my life and when I couldn't see anything but blackness that would be it."

6 We didn't know if death was seconds or minutes away

"It felt as if I was on an escalator going down and I suddenly knew that unless I could go in the opposite direction I wasn't going to get out alive. I knew I had to stop panicking. Then I remembered the other mouthpiece and the air."

Chris Bonington has had what he calls "a number of close calls" in his climbing career. One of these occurred in July 1977 after reaching the top of the Ogre in Karakorum in Pakistan with Doug Scott. On the way down, Scott was absconding when he slipped and broke both legs. The pair had no food, no drink and it was bitterly cold. Disaster struck again three days later when Bonington fell, broke three ribs and was trapped by the storm, began to develop pneumonia.

He says: "I wasn't afraid. I got more afraid in anticipation of something happening rather than coping with an event that had, I realised that if I didn't get down I'd probably be dead and I was worried, but in a positive sense, trying to work out what the hell we were going to do."

"One's constantly amazed at how ordinary people cope with horrendous situations, but people do rise above a crisis. In most climbing situations you are more like the pilot on the jumbo jet - he would have been working flat out to save the plane - than the passengers. Theirs would have been the most dreadful kind of fear I can imagine."

One woman who does not have to imagine their fear is Betty Tootell.

who was aboard a jumbo 747 from Kuala Lumpur to Perth when all four engines failed. For 13 minutes, until the engines restarted, she thought death was inevitable.

She says: "I was sitting with my mother at the rear of the plane. My first reaction was total disbelief. It couldn't be happening to us. A flicker of turbulence had made me look up and I saw a shining white light round the wings. Black smoke began belching into the cabin and when I looked out to port there was a rosy glow, an unmistakable sign of flames outside and I was waiting for them to come inside."

"There was vibration, severe at times and the oxygen masks came down. We were afraid, but stronger than that was a feeling of not wanting to die. Of having so many unfinished things. We didn't know if death was seconds or minutes away."

"After the initial flurry on the plane - not panic, that's too strong a word - people said goodbye to each other, put their arms around one another. Some sat sobbing quietly, some appeared not to have noticed what was happening. My heart was thumping like mad, but although people say panic is infectious it was calm that seemed to have spread."

"All sorts of thoughts came into my mind - some deep, some trivial. Some amusing. One woman thought: 'Good Heavens! I haven't paid the electricity bill.'"

Betty Tootell, who was in management consultancy and now lives in Auckland, found herself driven by a compulsion to write a book about it. She says: "In the early days several people - including some of the crew - had nightmares, but these tapered off. The ones who found it hardest, I think, were those who wouldn't talk about it, who didn't get it all out of their systems."

"At the time we all thought we had learnt a lesson, that we would reshuffle life's priorities and sort out the important from the trivial. But I find I have to keep reminding myself of the message of that night when we all thought we were going to die."

All Four Engines Have Failed by Betty Tootell is published by Andre Deutsch on September 12 at £8.95.

Don't listen to the lyrics

Parents of teenagers, as if they didn't have enough to contend with already, have just been handed another cross to bear by Mrs Susan Baker, wife of the Treasury Secretary of the United States and a founding member of an organization called Parents' Music Resource Centre.

PMRC is pressing for a rating system for pop records and cassettes ranging from V for violence to X for profanity and lewdness. (Why X, Mrs Baker? Wouldn't P and L be a more accurate labelling?) It also wants "explicit" records to be kept behind the counter and lyrics printed on the sleeve for parents to read.

If PMRC thinks that this sort of lyric-watch will result in the demise of pelvis-jerking performers who do peculiar things with their microphone leads, I can assure them it won't. Teenagers will go on listening to Prince, Madonna and Freddy Mercury while, thanks to Mrs Baker, every pop star considered by her to be a raunchy degenerate will have gained a brand new audience.

People who thus far have been satisfied to sing along with Barry Manilow and Eddie (Golden Trumpet) Calvert will give rather muckier musicians a whirl just to see what they sound like. Queues of middle-aged gents in shabby raincoats will side up to record counters and whisper out of the side of their mouths that they'd just like to, ahem, have a look at that new Sheena Easton record sleeve.

It wouldn't be at all surprised if record promoters, hoping to launch an obviously talented group into the big time, do their damndest to provoke Mrs Baker and her chums into publicly denouncing them for lack of decency.

PENNY PERRICK

If that's not reason enough for PMRC to throw in the towel, what about the fact that teenagers hardly ever listen to lyrics anyway - which is just as it should be because whatever talents the current group of pop idols possess, clear diction isn't one of them.

Furthermore, however debauched, degenerate and dissolute, teenagers may look, especially if they train their hair to grow in purple spikes, drill so many holes in their ears that they resemble colanders and flaunt bare belly-buttons à la Madonna: most of them are as innocent as the new-born babes they quite serenely were. They may, off and blind, all the live-long day that they wouldn't recognize a double entendre if one came up and bit them on the nose.

It is the savvy sophisticates of Mrs Baker's generation who understand the hidden meaning of songs like Sugar Walls and are shocked by it. To their children, the lyrics are just the

words which go with the tunes - and it's the tunes that matter.

My two-year-old daughter provided a perfect example of this. Unable to understand the lyrics, she was entranced by a song recorded by The Dubliners and trilled it non-stop. This had an alarming effect on a couple of elderly gentlemen drinking porter on the Embankment. As I passed then wheeling the pushchair, they heard a shrill little voice sing out, "You're drunk, you're drunk, you're silly old man, as drunk as drunk can be."

There is something about the sexual content of today's pop music which PMRC, its ears clogged up with moral outrage, may not have noticed. It is that sex is sent up, joked about, treated as something whose complexities must be dealt with in terms of absurd exaggeration (Spandex, tighties, corsettes, jammy lipsuck) if one is to survive all the pain that necessarily goes with love.

If Mrs Baker wants something to worry about, and she obviously does, she should examine the lyrics of the music that her generation (and mine) are familiar with: heart-breaking, self-indulgent, guaranteed to have you reach out for the gin and Valium. If accusations are going to fly, I would like to point a finger at Frank Sinatra, whose way with a lyric has caused me to spend whole afternoons lying on a sofa, crying my eyes out; a state not at all conducive to mental stability, or emotional well-being.

But I don't suppose Mrs Baker will insist on Sinatra LPs carrying an HB (for heartbreak) rating on the sleeve. After all, of songs like Sugar Walls and are shocked by it. To their Washington establishment, just like Mrs Baker herself.

Implications of sterilization

From Dr Elizabeth Elliot, West Haddon, Haddenham, Cambridgeshire.

We should indeed be concerned if young women are being rushed into sterilization without time to reflect on its implications (Friday Page, August 9).

I do not believe that Marie Stopes would have approved of the attitude of Dr Tim Black of Population Services. Once "population" becomes the motivation for a clinic, the ethical basis of consideration for the individual young woman's mental and physical welfare, or that of the family, takes second place to that of stopping pregnancy at any price.

From Toni Bellfield: Ronnie Goodchild, Helen Martins and Kaye Wellings, Family Planning Information Service, 27-35 Mortimer Street, London, W1.

Whilst the airing of issues related to sterilization is to be welcomed, it is unfortunate that the treatment of what is a highly complex matter was given somewhat superficial and sensational treatment.

A recent report from the Policy Studies Institute demonstrates that a lengthy counselling process insisted upon indiscriminately is not necessarily in the best interest of the client. The distinction has to be made between those who have

TALKBACK

already made up their minds and those who are in an earlier stage of decision making. To give in-depth counselling to the first group is as intrusive as to withhold it from the second is neglectful.

Even the very best counselling cannot realistically prepare for every eventuality in life, in sterilization as in any other area of health care.

From Sir Anthony Alment, Winston House, Boughton, Northampton.

The wide coverage you gave to sterilization and consent lacks balance in two respects.

First, it deals exclusively with female sterilization. In the field of male sterilization decisions are, as a rule, made on a stricter but far more arbitrary basis by the surgeons concerned and it is likely that counselling is just as variable.

Second, it equates regret about the operation, and a desire for further family, with failure in decision-making. If every possibility of regret had to be eliminated - and "regret" is a range of feelings from transient sadness when in contact with another's baby to a return of deep desire for one's own - sterilization would be justified except for older women who had distanced some years from their

child-bearing and secure in their marriage.

What is more significant is the case implied that any woman who regrets her sterilization has a right to the restoration of her fertility where this is surgically possible.

Whilst it might seem improper to question the right of a woman to have what children she wishes, in whatever circumstances, there is inescapable evidence that those who follow one broken young family with another not only add to the burden of care by social agencies but also imperil the prospects of those children becoming stable parents in their turn.

Of course family fracture with young children is now so common (and often amongst those who are cultural idols of their generation) that it is increasingly difficult to condemn.

What is past cannot be repaired, but should the freedom to create second (and third) families, sometimes giving children as love-tokens without regard to their ill-supported siblings, be regarded as absolute? Doctors may not be the best agents for counselling about social issues but they must be aware of them both in connection with advice about sterilization and some caution about its reversal.

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THE TIMES DIARY

Anything for a pom

Any faint expectations in the Ministry of Defence of being given "a fair go" by the McClelland Commission on British nuclear testing in Australia during the 1950s and '60s should probably be abandoned forthwith. In a Canberra speech, Judge McClelland, who was felt to be a little rough with Crown witnesses during the commission's London hearings, attacked "the servile anglophilia which was the cardinal principle in the philosophy of Bob Menzies", prime minister during the tests. The judge and former Labour minister told the National Press Club lunch: "There is one thing that has struck me... and that is a prime minister like Bob Menzies, when asked by the British for anything, was accustomed to drop his strides and say, 'Go for your life'."

Unblacked

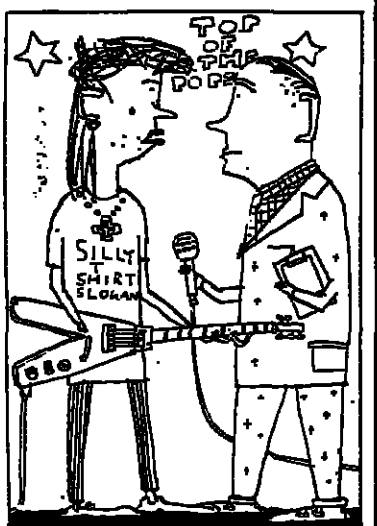
Civil Ramaphosa, general secretary of the South African NUM, declares: "The South African National Union of Mineworkers welcomes the growing support from the international labour movement for the black workers of South Africa... and that is a prime minister like Bob Menzies, when asked by the British for anything, was accustomed to drop his strides and say, 'Go for your life'."

... blackout

Further evidence that President Botha has blood on his hands came with Saturday's *Morning Star* whose front page article "Save black poet from hangman Botha's noose" was printed entirely in red ink. The paper also seemed to be suffering from a paucity of news since it ran two of its six-page issue blank. Unofficial sources blamed it on "technical difficulties" - that is, the paper ran out of black ink.

Extraordinary. For those in London with push-button telephones, ring 9 for an outside line, and dial 222 9000, the number of Conservative Central Office. Listen carefully as you dial. What do you hear? The tune of the Red Flag.

BARRY FANTONI



"Forget golden discs - my ambition is to sink a really expensive boat"

Pym's No 7

The seventh bottle of champagne in the Diary's quest for stories about the famous before they became well known goes to Hilary Walton of Oxford. "My sister, (Barbara Pym) and I had a flat in Barnes during the 1950s. Some new people moved into the house next door, and one afternoon I saw a tall, balding, rather academic-looking man walking in the garden, holding in his hand what appeared to be an ostrich-feather boa. I learned later that his name was Paul Raymond."

Monday blues

Revealing stuff from the Monday Club's recent executive council meeting. The minutes slipped my way read: "It was agreed to invite Mr Enoch Powell to be guest of honour at our 1985 annual dinner (held at the Savoy each November), although it was accepted this meant holding it on a Friday. Failing him, we would invite Mr Cecil Parkinson."

Major bungle

At a recent Guildhall dinner attended by Lord Whitelaw and Sir Michael Havers, Mark Andrews of Television South was asked for his name by the major-domo. "Mr Andrews, of TVS," he replied, to which the major-domo boomed, "Mr Andrew Teeves." As an irritated Andrews passed the bumbling major-domo, he said out of the corner of his mouth "Prat," to which the major-domo responded loudly to the waiting dignitaries "Mr Andrew Teeves-Prat."

Safety first

The latest building to be condemned as "structurally unsound" by the Health and Safety Executive office in Chapel Street, north London, last March, the Executive's factory inspectors were transferred from the London building to offices in Boodle, while members of the division and Press Substances department to the organization's Marylebone headquarters. The reason given then? "Reorganization."

PHS

Of all the arguments raging around President Reagan's Star Wars research programme, the one about technical feasibility is the hardest for the non-scientist to grasp.

Most people who think about these matters are capable of forming some opinion on whether the Strategic Defence Initiative will upset the balance of power, erode the stability of deterrence, damage the prospects of arms control agreements or undermine the defence of western Europe, but when it comes to the revolution in science and technology which will be needed to construct an effective defence against nuclear missiles, most of us have to rely on the judgement of specialists: and among them there are two opposed schools of thought.

A number of highly reputable scientists say it simply cannot be done. They suggest that only a miracle would permit all the components of the Star Wars concept - particle beams, geosynchronous relay space mirrors, laser battle stations, kinetic energy weapons - to work together to provide a defence against an attack by ballistic missiles.

Others of comparable eminence point to the speed of development in such areas as information processing, laser technology, directed energy and optics, concluding that while a "leakproof" defence might not be possible to achieve, an effective defence almost certainly is.

One side claims that countermeasures would soon render space-based defences impotent; the other retorts that such countermeasures would be more complicated and expensive than the defensive improvements necessary in turn to nullify them.

In an attempt to determine which side is right, President Reagan last year established the Strategic Defence Initiative Office (SDIO) under Lt-Gen James Abrahamson. Its task is to enable president and Congress, some time in the 1990s, to decide whether to deploy such defences.

Abrahamson recently submitted his first report to Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, and its contents underline the imprudence

Star Wars: the high cost of staying out

by Alun Chalfont

of arriving too early at negative forecasts about scientific development.

The office has been engaged in two areas of research. One, quietly referred to as "conventional", involves kinetic energy weapons which destroy enemy missiles by colliding with them, and space stations for surveillance of enemy offensive missiles. The other concentrates on the newer technologies such as lasers and directed-energy weapons - the "death rays" familiar from science fiction.

In the "conventional" category, Abrahamson has reported a number of accomplishments. In June 1984, in a project known as the Homing Overlay Experiment, a non-nuclear missile fired from a fixed ground base destroyed an incoming ballistic missile by colliding with it at a closing speed of over 20,000 miles an hour.

The destruction of one missile is a different matter from thousands of warheads, decoys and other countermeasures, but the experiment demonstrated the ability of kinetic energy weapons to destroy incoming missiles. This achievement - "hitting a bullet with a bullet" - was regarded only a few years ago by many experts as impossible.

There have also been developments in space-based sensors to track offensive missiles, in "multi-nodal" operation of computers to ensure reliable information processing, and in "cryocoolers" - special

refrigerators to keep space-based infra-red sensors at correct temperature. The protection of computer circuits against radiation is well advanced, and already a "distributed" information processor, using a large number of small computers linked into a comprehensive memory system, is operational.

There has been progress on other weapons for space-based defence. One is the hypervelocity projectile accelerator, or rail-gun, delivering an extremely high speed interceptor to destroy a missile by kinetic energy within seconds of its launch. Last autumn the SDIO demonstrated a rapid-fire switch capable of directing half a million amps of electric current, and bursts of five projectiles in half a second were fired.

The Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory has demolished the belief that charged particles could not be used in beam weapons because of the bending of their trajectories in the earth's magnetic field. At Los Alamos National Laboratory, techniques first developed for the Soviet Union for producing low-weight space-based neutral-particle-beam weapons are being rapidly advanced.

There has also been progress in laser technology, including the redirection of beams from lasers on the ground by mirrors in space. One of the most important advances has been in experiments in Hawaii into the delivery of laser beams through

the atmosphere without losing quality.

The significance of all this for the UK and western Europe is obvious. The strategic defence research programme is well under way. No one should doubt that the US government intends to press on until it can decide whether it is technologically practical to develop and deploy an effective system.

The military and political arguments will rumble on in the background. The adherents of "Mutual Assured Destruction" and the disarmament lobby may rage against strategic defence. But until the research produces its results these arguments will remain academic.

As Abrahamson says in the concluding paragraph of his report to Weinberger: "The SDIO has found no lack of ideas or people and facilities willing to contribute to this effort. Perhaps the most encouraging progress is the awareness that this country and its allies have the capability and resources to address the technical challenges associated with SDI research."

Abrahamson touched a sensitive nerve here. America's allies undoubtedly have the science and technology to take part in this remarkable research programme. But so far the political will to do so is less evident.

It may be, of course, that European governments, concerned about their own nuclear systems, about arms control, and about American hegemony, will stand aside from the Strategic Defence Initiative. If they do, they must calculate the eventual cost, since one thing is certain. If the United States government cannot count on the collaboration of its European allies, it will go ahead without it. So, whatever Nato does, will the Soviet Union.

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Lord Chalfont's Star Wars - Suicide or Survival will be published by Eidenfeld and Nicholson in October.

In A level results week, George Low assesses the two-tier conflict

Your exam questions answered

The universities' traditional dominance over the school examination system is under serious challenge. The threats come from several quarters: politicians, industry, commerce and the marketplace.

Added to this, the three main teacher unions have threatened to use the new General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE) - which from next year will combine O level and CSE exams - as a bargaining counter in their increasingly bitter pay dispute.

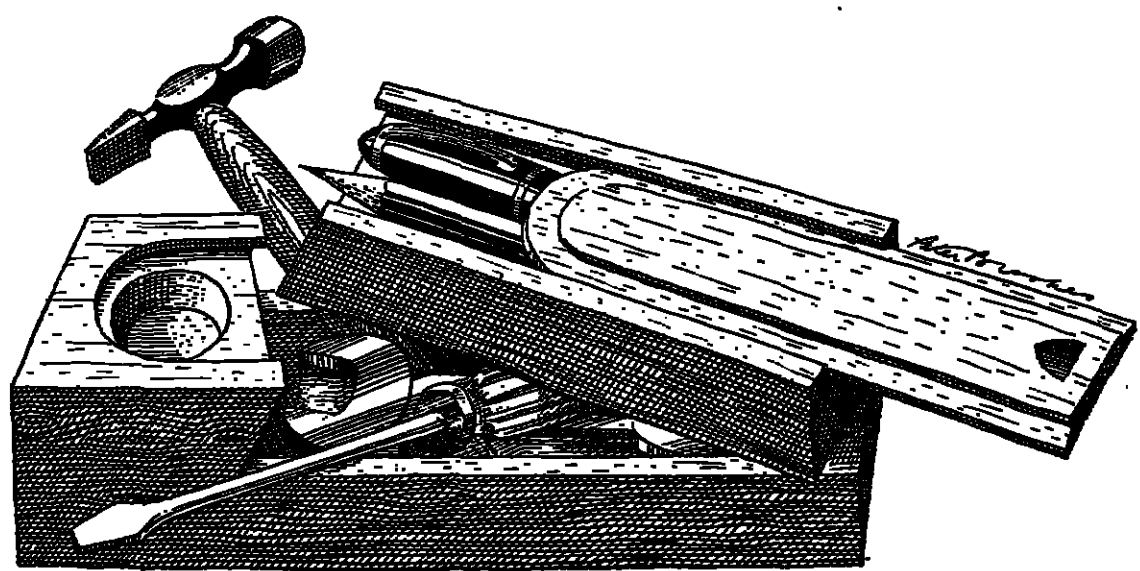
Parents, teachers and employers will need to watch developments with unusual care over the next few months. The rarefied calm of the examinations industry is likely to be broken by a storm with unpredictable consequences.

The political challenge has been with the exam boards for at least three years. When Sir Keith Joseph abolished the Schools Council and took control of the exam system out of the hands of the teaching profession, he served notice that the government would take an increasingly active interest in the form and standards of future examinations. He appointed a new Secondary Examinations Council to oversee the work of the exam boards and produce national criteria for each subject of the new GCSE exam at 16-plus.

So far the GCE and CSE boards, now reorganized into five regional groups, have accepted these controls with good grace. The criteria for the GCSE are complete and the new syllabuses well under way.

Even so, there was an embarrassing clash between Sir Keith and the GCE boards earlier this year over the retention of the Certificate of Extended Education (CEE), which Sir Keith wanted to scrap. At the end of the day, however, he found to his chagrin that he had few statutory powers over the university exam boards. The most he could do was threaten not to endorse their certificates - not the most powerful deterrent. The boards could, and still can, seek the protection of their senates and university charters to cock a snook at ministers if they wish.

The exam boards are deeply worried about the GCSE. There are only 12 months left before the first group of 14-year-olds begins the two-year course in September next year. The boards believe the new exam is under-funded and teachers ill-prepared for its introduction. They are also uneasy about the covert changes in curriculum and pedagogy that are being brought in



under the guise of the new GCSE assessment schemes.

However, the most immediate and potent threat to the dominance of the university-based exam boards is coming from the industry-based exam boards in the further education sector - notably the City and Guilds of London Institute and the Business and Technician Educational Council. Both have years of experience in colleges and solid backing from industry and commerce. They have announced their intention of developing pre-vocational courses and qualifications for the 14 to 18-year-old age range. This represents a direct challenge to the GCSE in the schools.

John Barnes, the new director-general of the CGLI, is a man with a mission. He believes the examination system, with its emphasis on theoretical and subject-based know-

ledge, has diverted many able youngsters from industry and commerce and left the rest with an unimpressive record of failure. He wants to create new paths through the exam board jungle from 14 to 18 leading to fully-fledged and high quality vocational qualifications.

The clash of interests is likely to come to a head over the Technical and Vocational Education Initiative (TVEI) for 14 to 18-year-olds. There are now 100,000 youngsters in the scheme taking a variety of syllabuses - some, in Barnes's view, of doubtful relevance.

The director of the TVEI, John Woolhouse, shares some of these doubts. One of his problems is matching the new vocational curriculum with existing examinations based on traditional school subjects. "Our scheme tends to cut across subject boundaries. It is designed to

encourage inter-disciplinary approaches between arts, science and technology, to promote creativity, design, sense, and project-based learning - many of the capabilities not reflected in the existing examination and assessment system," he says.

The scene is set for a trial of strength between the academic and vocational exam interests - possibly as early as next month. Sir Keith and his officials have set up a joint working party to try to find a civilized compromise. The chairman is Stuart Johnson, director of education for Leeds and a man of long experience and sagacity.

But the peace pipe may have been passed around too late. If palaver fails, the outcome will be decided by naked competition. The university exam boards, who rule the roost in the GCSE camp, are confident parents will opt for the GCSE as the natural successor to O level and will associate the universities with high standards and traditional disciplines. The vocational boards, on the other hand, believe young people will vote with their feet towards new styles of learning and qualifications which, with strong employer support, will lead to jobs rather than the dole.

Whatever the outcome, the education system seems destined again to create a dual pattern of school examinations within two years of merging the GCE and CSE exams into one.

The author is deputy editor of the weekly journal *Education*.

Uncorking a stench of corruption

centre on an expensive villa on the outskirts of Vienna. Was the tax declared? Where did the capital come from? Was the price for the villa too low?

While the public awaits the outcome of Androsch's case, they can also distract themselves with the arrest of Udo Proksch, owner of the celebrated Demel cakeshop.

The hapless Proksch was whisked from his lavishly stocked bakery by police investigating his insurance claim for several million pounds on a cargo of uranium which sank in the Indian Ocean some years ago. At one hearing the foreign minister, a friend of the accused, gave evidence.

In a way, it matters little whether these men are guilty. The fact that Austrians can hardly avoid reading about these cases when they open their newspapers or avoid thinking about corruption when they uncork a bottle of wine, is demoralizing enough.

To combat the growing disillusionment, Rudolf Kirchschläger, the president, has demanded that "character building" be taken more seriously in Austria. "A change of

attitude is required both in the family and at school."

This is unlikely to happen quickly. When Metternich observed that the Balkans began at the gates of Vienna, he was referring not so much to geography as to a mentality rich in informal dealing, tergiversation and improvisation.

It was an attitude well suited to the problems of ruling 20 competing races during the Habsburg empire, and it remains today, exuding charm on one hand and sycophancy on the other.

In education, independent thinking is rarely encouraged. Most university tests are conducted orally since written exams almost invariably involve cheating. But as offenders merely wait for another appointment to take the test, few regard cheating as immoral.

For graduates and school leavers with sights on a job, the all-important word is "protection". This means knowing someone who will do you a favour. You will be expected to return the compliment.

The easiest way to find protection is to join a political party, for the chances are that whichever walk of

life you choose, someone in a high position in it will belong to your party and help you.

The process thrives on the Austrian, especially the Viennese, "easy-going character" and permeates every aspect of life. Merit and moral responsibility come low in this order of affairs. A defence minister who greets a repatriated Nazi war criminal, damaging the reputation of his country, feels no need to resign. An agriculture minister, whose lack of vigour in bringing wine-doctors to justice results in the name of Austria being dragged through the mud, sees no reason for resigning either.

Only when Austria's international reputation was tarnished - by an energetic German ministry banning Austrian wines doctored with diethylene-glycol - did the Vienna government act on information it had had for months.

Austria once boasted one of the least corrupt civil services in the world and a code of honour which demanded suicide from those who transgressed it. It is a small country, seen as having achieved all it can in economic and social terms. But now Austrians will have to draw a recognized line between being easy-going and being corrupt if they want to restore importers' faith in their goods, and their own confidence in their politicians.

Richard Bassett

Tom Burke

A welcome growth of greenery

Macaulay is as cynical as he is elegant. "We must remember," he wrote, "that argument is constructed in one way and government in entirely another". Just so. Friends of the Earth have recently been given a rather public lesson in the enduring truth of this dictum.

That they have the better argument over peat extraction at Dutch Moss seems clear. The Nature Conservancy Council, the European Commission, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and many other learned and worthy voices agree with them. That they have lost the politics, however, seems equally clear.

Environmentalists are more accustomed to riding the waves of public outrage than they are to being crushed by them. After the recent lullay meeting, many a battle-scarred veteran of public meetings to promote a radioactive waste dump or a motorway must have chorled to see the boot of public approval so spectacularly on the other foot.

But the Friends' fall from grace - undoubtedly temporary - may carry a timely message for conservationists. The environment has long elicited effusive enthusiasm, but little action, from politicians. Cross-party support, often an indicator of political insignificance, is a common characteristic of environmental initiatives in Parliament. Green leaders have been deeply frustrated by the blanket of benevolent inertia that envelops the politics of the environment. There are now signs, however, that this is all about to change. Politicians are beginning to pay it serious attention.

The public always has. Since the early 1970s, opinion polls have consistently shown the environment to be a key area of public concern. One of the most recent polls found that 60 per cent of Britons thought it more important to protect the environment than to keep prices down; 57 per cent thought the environment should be given priority even at the risk of slowing economic growth. Nearly 90 per cent of the population are worried by chemical and nuclear waste disposal (MORI).

And these figures are recession-proof. Concern about, and willingness to pay for, the environment has increased by about 10 per cent since similar questions were asked three years ago. The signal that the public wants both jobs and a decent environment and is in no mood to choose between them is clear.

Unless their ears are at risk, politicians pay little attention to opinion polls, as their prolonged indifference to the environment shows. They do, however, pay a great deal of attention to the activities of other politicians. Across the whole political spectrum green issues are stirring.

Labour MP David Clarke, for example, is using his reputation as a campaigner on the environment to help him break into the shadow cabinet. He performed well in the last parliamentary session, playing an important part in efforts to control pesticides more strictly and moving a successful private mem-

ber's bill to close loopholes in the Wildlife and Countryside Act.

The Alliance entrance into the green lists has been marked by major speeches from both Davids and an SDP paper, due for publication this week, drafted by a group under the chairmanship of Bill Rodgers. The unopposed election of veteran campaigner David Wilson as Liberal president for the key pre-election year suggests that the environment will feature strongly in Alliance policies.

It is less easy for governments to respond to shifting currents. Nevertheless, the Centre for Policy Studies' forthcoming pamphlet, *Greening the Tories*, coming soon after the Bow Group's *Conservation and the Conservatives*, suggests that the back benches know which way the wind is blowing. A green seam is being sewn into the true blue.

The government has been fortunate in having William Waldegrave as Environment, parliamentary under-secretary. He has the trust and respect of the leading conservation bodies. It will be interesting to see if the value of this asset is recognized in the autumn reshuffle by leaving him where he is or promoting him.

Perhaps an even more convincing illustration that the politics of the environment is on the move is the sight of Paul Johnson undergoing yet another conversion. The sustained virulence of his attack on environmentalists and all they stand for in *Enemies of Society* has never been exceeded. Yet we now find him issuing a stern warning to the government that its failures on environmental policy could "easily" lose Mrs Thatcher the next election by handing over Tory marginal seats in the South to the Alliance.

Others have noticed the emergence of a new endangered species. The 28 southern Tory MPs who wrote recently to Mrs Thatcher urging her not to allow building development on green field sites may well care deeply about the environment, but they also care about their seats. On-shore oil development, the Ockhampton bypass, radioactive waste dumping, new village projects, Sizewell, Stansted and the Channel Tunnel - all come to a head in the next 12 months and all will upset traditional Tory voters in just those vulnerable southern seats.

If this volatile concentration of issues has so far escaped Labour and Alliance strategists, it is unlikely to do so for much longer.

The graduation of the environment into the grown-up politics where votes and seats are at stake is not, however, a wholly unmitigated blessing for the environmentalists. They may find the rough and tumble of partisan politics less to their liking than they imagine. More may well get done about environmental problems, but unless conservationists become more politically adept it may not be what they think most urgent. The rhinoceros, as Lord Annan recently observed, is not a politically exting species.

The author is director of the Green Alliance.

moreover... Miles Kington

From Usher with love

From today for two weeks I shall be in Edinburgh for the Festival. I should really have one of those things at the top of the column - dateline, strapline, chinstrap, whatever they're called - saying Edinburgh in bold black print, so that people would know I had been sent here to tell you the truth as to the Festival or what the Fringe's policy is on apartheid. In fact I have come for the more mundane purpose of taking part. Yes, I am toting my double bass northwards once more to take the stage...

Reader: This is going to be unbearable. It's had enough for the rest of its having to read endless articles about how great the Festival is and what idiots we are to be missing it all, but now he's going to advertise his group as well. Let's see if there are any good letters on the Letters page.

No, no, hold on a moment. Don't you want to hear anything about Edinburgh at all?

Certainly not. I've already read 50 pieces about the Festival. 40 reviews of the Fringe which didn't mention anything remotely attractive, 45 guides to the best salad bars in the New Town and 70 synopses of operas which even Bernard Levin would exit from at the interval. Isn't there anything going on in Glasgow? I think I see your problem. You're sick of hearing people tell you that you should be in Edinburgh?

My, you're quick on the ball. Well, I think we have room for compromise here. Another reason I haven't put the word Edinburgh in expensive print at the top, like an insufficient address without a post-code, is that I am not there yet. I mean, I will be there when you read this, but because of the new technology I have to write it in London before I go, which means in all honesty that I can easily write what you want to hear. Up to a point.

OK, then. Write a piece telling us how glad we should be to be anywhere but in Edinburgh this fortnight.

As I battle northwards with my double bass, vainly trying to find a seat in the Edinburgh train and dreading the enormous taxi queue at Waverley station, my heart sinks at the prospect of another fortnight in this accursed capital. Oh, the misery of spending the day at four Fringe shows, all of them rubbish. Oh, the nightmare of sky-high prices, just for the season. Oh, the agony of seeing

other shows sold out, while yours gets an audience of two Americans, a sneering critic and five relations. Oh, the heartache of trying to find somewhere to live...

You haven't got anywhere to stay? And you're going up tomorrow?

Yes, I booked somewhere weeks ago. I thought you wanted cheering up.

Carry on. Edinburgh is a heartbreak old town. Behind the brave facade, there is despair. How many shows come to the Fringe with high hopes, only to end as total disasters? How many writers and producers arrive to take this granite-hearted city by storm and are so rebuffed that by the second week they creep up to the Castle by night and throw themselves off those haunted crags? And how many Scotsman readers see the reports of their tragic deaths and say: "Another Fringe show publicity gimmick. We'll give that one a miss, Moira"? How many...?

Well, how many?

How many what? How many showbiz suicides? Oh, hundreds. Thousands in a good year. But the misery of the audience is no less. Trudging endlessly from ticket queue to ticket queue, dodging the wintry storms, gnashing their teeth over the smash hit which is sold out, toiling up the back-breaking north face of the Mound...

To throw themselves off the Castle? No. Generally they go to the Assembly Rooms and throw themselves into a cup of tea. Do you know, this is the first piece I've read which makes the Festival sound interesting? It sounds not unlike the last two weeks of the Vietnam war.

Yes, there are points of resemblance. Most infuriating. I might get up there after all. What did you say the name of that show was?

Which one? The one with two Americans, a grumpy critic and five unwilling relations. Ah, yes, that one. It's called *Instant Sunshine* and it's on at the George Square Theatre.

I take it that's the one you're in? The one you've finally sneaked in an advertisement?

Well, yes, actually. But you don't have to come or anything. Don't worry. I won't.

(Tomorrow: what films are on in Glasgow this week and how to get there from Edinburgh).

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P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

CROSS AND CRESCENT

The Pope's brief visit to Morocco today is by far the most innovative moment of his current African tour. It is not the first time he has been in a predominantly Muslim country. In 1979 he met Muslim religious leaders in Ankara and asked "if it is not urgent... to recognize and develop the spiritual ties which unite us". But Turkey is a secular state which he was visiting at the invitation of the Orthodox Ecumenical Patriarch. He aroused no enthusiasm among the Turkish Muslim masses, and his visit was the occasion for Mehmet Ali Agca to escape from prison vowing to kill "the new crusader" - a threat which was not taken seriously enough at the time.

Subsequently he met Muslims in Ghana and in the Philippines; on his way to the latter he stopped to say mass at Karachi in Pakistan, the world's only state created specifically as a homeland for Muslims, and again urged greater dialogue between Christians and Muslims. In a stadium where a bomb had gone off twenty minutes before he was due to arrive, killing the man who was carrying it. In February 1982, nine months after he had been wounded by Mehmet Ali Agca, he visited predominantly Muslim northern Nigeria and appealed for closer cooperation between Christians and Muslims, but the Muslim leaders who were to have met him were not at the rendezvous - kept away, apparently, by differences among themselves about how his visit should be treated.

But today, for the first time, the initiative for dialogue comes from the Muslim side. A Muslim ruler who claims direct descent from the Prophet, and glories in the title of Commander of the Faithful, has invited the Pope specifically to address an audience comprising - we are told - 80,000 young Muslims from 23 Muslim countries.

Such an invitation must be highly gratifying to the Pope, whose sincerity in the quest for dialogue with non-Christian religions is evident, and has already been strikingly manifested on this tour in his meeting with the leaders of tribal animist cults in Togo and his reverent attitude to their sacred forest. On the face of it, dialogue with the fellow-monotheists of Islam should be much easier to establish. The Pope can start from the declaration of the second Vatican Council on the relationship of the Church to

non-Christian religions, which stresses how much Muslims have in common with Christians:

They adore one God, living and enduring, merciful and all-powerful, Maker of heaven and earth and Speaker to men. They strive to submit wholeheartedly even to His inscrutable decrees, just as did Abraham, with whom the Islamic faith is pleased to associate itself. Though they do not acknowledge Jesus as God, they revere Him as a prophet. They also honour Mary, His virgin mother, at times they call on her too, with devotion. In addition they await the day of Judgment when God will give each man his due after raising him up. Consequently, they prize the moral life, and give worship to God especially through prayer, almsgiving, and fasting.

But the declaration also refers to the "many quarrels and hostilities" that have arisen between Christians and Muslims "in the course of the centuries", and the truth is that the legacy of prejudice and misunderstanding that these have left helps to make this dialogue perhaps the most difficult of all to establish. The very closeness of the two religions has placed them in competition from the outset, and each has spawned an extraordinary number of half-truths and outright myths about the other. For many generations of Christians there was something diabolical about a cult which sprang up when salvation through belief in Christ had already been available to mankind for six centuries, and which proceeded, largely by force of arms, to displace Christianity as the dominant religion throughout the Near East and much of the Mediterranean world, including the Holy Land itself. For Muslims Christianity was in principle worthy of respect, but Christians were guilty of falsifying their own religion in a blasphemous way by claiming that Jesus was God; of failing to recognize the Koran as a superior and more complete revelation of God's nature; and, subsequently, of acts of aggression and oppression against the Muslim community. (The parallel with what was until modern times the prevailing Christian attitude to Judaism is quite close.)

On the Christian side a considerable effort of scholarship and understanding has been made in the last hundred years or so, but this has not been reflected on the popular level where, unhappily, the negative image of Islam is reinforced by new events almost every day. On

the Muslim side much Christian or post-Christian culture has been absorbed, but the religious reaction to this has generally been a turning-inward and a strengthening of ideological defences. Few indeed are the Muslim scholars who have made a real effort to understand Christianity in its own terms and to give a sympathetic description of it to fellow-Muslims. In most parts of the Muslim world such an enterprise would be considered morally if not physically dangerous.

Crusades, happily, have long gone out of fashion. Jihad remains very much in fashion, though it is not - and, to be fair, seldom was even in the past - directed against Christianity as such. But while Christianity seeks to disentangle itself from secular politics - and the present Pope clearly sees that as very much part of his personal mission - Islam has been reasserting its political vocation, albeit in a bewildering variety of hotly competing versions.

There too lies a difficulty for dialogue. Christians do not know which "Islam" to address themselves to. Many Muslims will object strongly to King Hassan's pretension to speak and act on their behalf, arguing that there is nothing genuinely Islamic about either his politics or his life-style, and will probably criticize the Pope for lending himself to the latest in a long series of royal publicity stunts, the real purpose of which is to distract attention from Morocco's acute internal and external problems.

To that the only answer must be that it is not for Christians to decide who is a good Muslim or even who is a genuine Muslim. Offers of dialogue are not so plentiful that one like this can be lightly spurned. The Vatican has in the past sent theologians to debate with Colonel Gaddafi. It would probably - should certainly - also be ready for dialogue with King Hassan's more militant Islamic critics, if they desire it, or for that matter with those who see no incompatibility between Islam and more secular social or national ideologies. One may hazard that the Pope would not refuse an invitation to Algeria, and that he would jump at the chance of going to Saudi Arabia or Iran, in the unlikely event of the rulers of either of those countries allowing him to be invited. Meanwhile, today's meeting in Casablanca offers an unprecedented opportunity, and a commensurately formidable challenge.

PRESSURE GROWS IN PAKISTAN

The return to Pakistan of Miss Benazir Bhutto, accompanying the body of her younger brother who died in France last month, comes at a moment when the immediate political future of the country looks more open and uncertain than it has done for some years past.

General Muhammad Zia ul-Haq has now been in power for eight years, ruling under martial law and a constitution sweeping amendments by himself so as to give himself virtually unlimited powers. For most of that time the country has been quiet, but the regime has not succeeded in generating any significant mass support, still less enthusiasm. Elections, originally promised within ninety days, were twice postponed. The former prime minister, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who whatever his faults had come to power through a genuine electoral process, was convicted on dubious evidence

of complicity in a murder, and hanged. Political parties, even democracy itself, were found to be "un-Islamic", and a half-hearted attempt made to replace them with something called "shura", after the Arabic word *shura* meaning consultation.

None of this appears to have cut much ice with ordinary Pakistanis who, while undoubtedly devoted to Islam, have a healthy scepticism about political leaders who use religion to obtain or hold on to political power. They prefer the vision of the state's founder, Muhammad Ali Jinnah, who saw Pakistan as a Muslim nation taking its place among the family of modern democracies, in which "in course of time Hindus would cease to be Hindus and Muslims would cease to be Muslims, not in the religious sense, because that is the personal faith of each individual, but in the political

sense as citizens of the state". Still, the military are clearly under pressure which, coming from a political system of their own creation, they do not find it easy to resist, and little by little they are giving ground. Last week they allowed opposition leaders to get away with organizing a public meeting in Lahore - the biggest since martial law was imposed eight years ago. The decision to allow Miss Bhutto to return for her brother's funeral also marks a softening of the regime's attitude, the effects of which are not easy to predict, and may not be easy to control. There seems at least a chance that events will now force General Zia to move towards genuine democracy. It would certainly be preferable for that to happen through dialogue and a managed transition rather than through riot and bloodshed leading, all too probably, to a further spell of authoritarian rule.

self-sustaining. It is a good lesson. In Britain in recent years, much ostensibly voluntary work has come to rely on public funds. Projects are set up by council grants. There grows that particular inertia of dependence on a public dole, and the withdrawal of public money even from projects that have manifestly failed becomes difficult.

With the evolution of capitalism since Carnegie's day, the face of philanthropy has changed. Corporate gift-giving continues, notably in the United States with its tax inducements, but it has a blander, safer face. There are those, too, who find it hard to match the profit-seeking motive (most aggressive in Andrew Carnegie) with the spirit of benevolence. Enterprise, they appear to say, is a narrow, greedy force. For correction they should turn up the pages of Carnegie's fellow countryman, Adam Smith. Moral sympathy and the benevolence to which it gives rise emerge from the same spring as the self-interest that generates economic enterprise. To celebrate Carnegie is of course to celebrate the operations of the stock market, and the creation of wealth in a market economy; it is also to recall a unique plan to use wealth for the sake of civilizing society.

PRIVATE ENTERPRISE, PUBLIC BENEFIT

Dunfermline should not have been alone in its celebrations over the past few days of the anniversary of Andrew Carnegie's birth. His beneficence is still to be seen in library buildings on a score of High Streets; within the United Kingdom his trusts benefit the universities, Scottish culture, and an array of projects. Carnegie is worth celebrating for his example, too. The extravagance of his philanthropy was challenging; even before he died in 1919, others had vowed to out-give him. The result was to give the United States - with Britain a constant beneficiary - its great endowments for public purposes in the name of Ford, Kellogg, Mellon and the rest. Even with its wealth, the Carnegie Corporation of New York is now only eighth in size among the philanthropic giants which together do indeed constitute what Mr. Kinnebrewster in Dunfermline last week rightly called a "fifth estate". Its scale in Britain is much smaller. But the work of Leverhulme and the Rowntree Trust, among others in supporting research, publications and meetings raise parallel issues.

First amongst these is the capacity of these great endowments to finance dissent -

disagreement with governments, departures from prevailing orthodoxy, even contestation with the very basis on which the endowments receive and keep their wealth. In the United States in the 1960s, the apparent capture of many of the Ford millions by transiently fashionable political causes sowed doubt about the way the great endowments were managed: a backlash of sorts reduced their tax privileges. But there is much to be said for independent sources for political eccentricity. The Rowntree Social Service Trust (non-charitable and tax-paying) uses the residue of the chocolate-makers' wealth to pay for a variety of campaigns and lobbies. Individually some are a nuisance, others a nonsense. But in the round, the very independence and liberality of such gifts are a usefully unpredictable element. Carnegie - a lifelong Republican - was himself capable of glorious wrong-headedness, and paying for it.

The great endowments can pay for experiment. A strength of the Ford Foundation has been its ability to make grants to a host of local "community-building" projects and later withdraw, either because the scheme has failed or because it has become

self-sustaining. It is a good lesson. In Britain in recent years, much ostensibly voluntary work has come to rely on public funds. Projects are set up by council grants. There grows that particular inertia of dependence on a public dole, and the withdrawal of public money even from projects that have manifestly failed becomes difficult.

Indians first in apartheid struggle

From Miss Mariyam Mahmoud-Harris

Sir, The rampaging black looters in South Africa appear to be unaware that Indians both within and outside South Africa sympathize and care for their "hurts and needs" (report, August 10).

South African Indians have been in the forefront of the struggle against apartheid and have sacrificed their lives and liberty to that end. The Government and people of India have consistently fought against the evils of apartheid starting from Mahatma Gandhi to when India brought the matter before the United Nations.

One of free India's first actions was to break off all diplomatic and trade relations with South Africa. Despite South Africa's tempting offers to the Namibian cricketers has accepted South Africa's invitation, nor have South African tourists been allowed into India. On the contrary Indian singers have been penalized in India for their performances in South Africa.

The South African whites have always seen the Indians as "coolies", as they are contemptuously called, as troublemakers because of their persistent fight for civil and political rights. If the white policy of divide and rule is not to succeed, now is the time for black South Africans to publicly acknowledge the support of the Indians. Now is the time for Bishop Tutu, the United Democratic Front and the African National Congress to take the lead in protecting their fellow countrymen of Indian origin if unity is to be maintained and the struggle against apartheid not weakened.

Yours truly,
MARIYAM MAHMOUD-HARRIS,
171 Gloucester Place, NW1,
August 12.

From Mr. Randolph Vigne

Sir, The possibility of reforms in South Africa is due not to the "combination of black unrest and the threat of international sanctions" (Mr. Botha, *Be Bold*, August 12) but almost solely to the risk of the loss of Western underwriting of the *status quo*.

Mr. P. W. Botha thinks he knows how to deal with the unrest, given a free hand: is not Blood River, where a handful of Boers slaughtered thousands of Zulus, the centrepiece of the Afrikaner national myth, which his party has so assiduously kept before their people? The United

Ritual slaughter

From Mr. W. Nigel Bonner

Sir, Special modifications of the law to allow for peoples' religious customs are not popular in the UK. The application of recent legislation concerning crash helmets to the Sikh community is evidence of this. Dispensation for religious slaughter has a longer history but still arouses disquiet in those concerned with animal welfare. Some nations (Norway and Switzerland) have banned religious slaughter; in others (e.g. Sweden) pre-stunning is invariable for both Halal and Shechita; in yet others (e.g. UK) pre-stunning is sometimes carried out.

Muslim custom is not in general opposed to pre-stunning, provided the other requirements of Halal slaughter are met. Jewish custom is more rigorous, it being stipulated that the animal suffers no injury prior to slaughter.

Diorama's bleak future

From Mr. Daniel Shaw and Mr. John Mothersole

Sir, When many arts organisations are under severe pressure, it is perhaps no surprise that yet another enterprising group - in this case Diorama Arts of North London - now faces impending closure. What is surprising and most regrettable is that at a time when Prince Charles, amongst others, has championed the architectural and "monstrous car-buncles" the demise of Diorama Arts will bring to an abrupt and untimely end the restoration of a grade-one listed building.

The building in question, situated in a Nash Terrace on the edge of Regent's Park, is the only diorama in existence, an early nineteenth century moving picture house built by photographic pioneer, Louis J. M. Seignier. Diorama Arts has transformed this once dilapidated building into a thriving arts centre and the various groups based there had intended to restore the original Diorama facilities, by using their own individual skills, continuing the artistic traditions of the diorama.

This work now seems doomed. The final irony, though, lies with the identity of the villains of the piece - none other than the Crown Estates Commissioners. For the sake of profit they appear set to destroy the artistic heritage of the diorama.

And what high purpose do the Crown Commissioners envisage for the diorama? Initially, its future is secure as perhaps the only grade-one listed building, site office in the country (serving a neighbouring development). The Commissioners' long-term proposals, however, have included plans for the demolition of the diorama and for the development of offices and a car park.

We would urge them to think again and to allow the structure of this unique building to be preserved, so that it may be restored as a diorama for future generations.

Yours,
DANIEL SHAW,
JOHN MOTHERSOLE,
Arts Officers,
Camden Arts and Entertainments,
100 Euston Road, NW1,
August 8.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Whimsy galore in ecology v jobs

From the Director General of the Chemical Industries Association Limited

Sir, Mr. Jonathon Porritt is right to question a crude "jobs versus the environment" slogan (feature, August 15) as the proper basis for striking a sensible social balance in environmental decisions.

He is however being simplistic and entirely misleading in proceeding from his perception of the Isle of Wight particular case to the general conclusion that environmental conflict is between a forward-thinking Green Knight on his White Charger trying to rescue the Princess and everyone who disagrees with him hiding under a semi-mythical dragon's skin of "bigotry and fear". Indeed most of his arguments have more in common with Don Quixote than with St. George! Nor does he serve his cause well by attempting to prop up his contentions with unverifiable pseudofacts ("... more jobs have been created in America through the growth of the environmentalists" etc.).

The reality is that environmental decisions, great and small, require the weighing of many economic, social, cultural, and aesthetic factors - some quantifiable but many judgemental. Certainly we must go as far as possible along the quantifiable route - those factors which can be entered numerically into the cost-benefit analysis must be so entered.

But for most decisions we are still left with a large area of value judgement where it is very difficult to attach numbers to the options. For example what price tag do you put on one human life? Or how do you evaluate the preferences of, say, the well-off suburban naturalist against those of the less prosperous consumer in a north country industrial town?

Or, indeed, whose estimate of the value of a particular winter home for Greenland White-Fronted Geese do you accept as the most valid? And can you quantify that estimate?

These questions, and a consideration of how we attempt to answer them, are very timely, because we are certainly entering an era where environmental matters will feature larger on the agenda at local, national, and international levels. If we are to face this situation in a constructive way we have to avoid the politics of the party political poker table with everyone trying to outbid each other with someone else's resources. But to achieve this we need to devise a better mechanism for balancing the difficult to quantify factors in the equation as between groups of people having good intentions but different opinions and value judgements.

Should we approach this by trying to create an environmental analogue of the multi-lateral Health and Safety Commission; or should we stick to the well-tried, but imprecise ballot box; or leave it to a minister of state accountable to Parliament; or should we go the referendum route; or what?

This is presently an unresolved question which we have to face up to, and face up to soon. The only thing that is sure is that we shall not solve our complex environmental problems by trading insults and half truths from our separate corners.

Yours faithfully,
MARTIN TROWBRIDGE,
Director General
Chemical Industries Association,
Alchemic House,
93 Albert Embankment, SE1,
August 15.

One must respect other peoples' religious law, but it is not proper that a minority's custom should be allowed to offend the moral sense of the majority (or why else should we live in communities?).

Since most people believe that for slaughter to be humane the animal should be unconscious before its throat is cut, this should apply throughout our land.

If members of the Jewish community find that this offends their religious sense, they have an easy option - they can cease to eat meat, as many thousands of other British people have done for reasons of taste, or because of moral convictions.

I am, Sir, yours etc,
NIGEL BONNER,
3 Berry Lane,
Godmanchester,
Huntingdon,
August 7.

Sacred mountain

From Dr Charles Warren

Sir, I liked reading, in your issue of August 15, the report of Reinhold Messner's unwillingness to climb Mount Kailash in Tibet out of respect for its Tibetan and Hindu taboos.

On this latter occasion I wrote, at the time, "Perhaps, secretly, I was even a little glad that the highest mountain on earth, the one that so many had striven in vain to approach, still remained to challenge another band of mountaineers".

After all, getting to the top of any mountain doesn't really matter at all. It is the way in which it is done that can make it epic.

Messner has now said as much and in doing so has, at last, put things in the right perspective.

Yours etc,
CHARLES WARREN,
Buck Croft,
Felsed,
Essex.

Neglected composers

From Mr. David Maxwell Anderson

Sir, Simon Heffer (feature, August 10) is dismayed by the neglect shown our own composers in the current Proms programme. Many of his arguments are valid, but it should be pointed out that the thematic approach to concert programming is in itself a major factor in the imbalance of this year's festival.

Nineteen hundred and eighty-four saw the fiftieth anniversaries of Holst, Debussy and Elgar's deaths, and their work enjoyed little more than perfunctory acknowledgement by the greater part of the music world. Concert organizers returned swiftly to Brahms and Tchaikovsky, and to impressing on the public the immense stature of Bach and Handel in their tercentenary.

Nothing does more damage to the cause of a particular kind of music than its presentation as "a special case". This is as true of individual composers as it is of entire seasons. I doubt whether Mr. Heffer's proposed opening night of Moeran, Butterworth and Vaughan Williams would appeal to people who know little about or who are wary of these composers any more than a concert including Holst, Carter, Berio and Boulez (Prom 9) would entice an audience not yet at ease with the modern idiom.

ON THIS DAY

AUGUST 19 1926

After 14 years the Ashes returned to England. In England's second innings Hobbs scored 100, Sutcliffe 161 and Wilfred Rhodes recalled at the age of 48 took 4 for 44 in the Australian's second innings, commencing in later years. "That pitch was improving. They should have put me on sooner". Our Correspondent was A. C. M. Croome. The special distinction between amateurs and professionals was abolished in 1962.

LAST TEST MATCH

VICTORY WORTHILY WON.

(FROM OUR CRICKET CORRESPONDENT)

England, 280 and 436; Australia, 302 and 125. We have won! And after all the lean years we were more than half-pleased. We began to cheer when the Australians' innings was little more than half over, and at the finish charged, ten thousand strong, across the ground and massed ourselves in front of the pavilion, where we shouted for the 11 men who had won the game, and for the Chairman of the Committee which selected them. We shouted even more loudly for Mr. Collins and the members of his team. We wanted them to know that we appreciated the high standard of keenness and honourable conduct which they have set up and maintained in this and all their other matches.

This final Test match has been an extraordinary interesting game. There were grounds for fearing that England had missed a golden opportunity by omitting to make at least 400 on the first day, after Mr. Chapman had won the toss on a perfect Oval wicket. But the Australians declined the offered chance. In fact their later batsmen had to extricate the side from a nasty hole. Still it seemed likely that we should have to pay for Saturday's comparative failure in batting. The thunderstorm of Monday night, followed by hot sunshine on the following morning, produced a wicket on which 200 was a remarkably good score against first-rate bowlers. Hobbs and Sutcliffe made more than that number between them and raised the aggregate of their combined scores in the last ten Test matches against Australia to something like 2,300. Every moment that has passed since they were parted has emphasized the magnitude of their performance. England's last nine wickets fell at rather frequent intervals and when the Australians went in to make 415, they were put out for 125.

THE OLD IS GOOD.

The explanation is simple. We had Rhodes on our side. Larwood, Tate, Geary, and Mr. Stevens all bowled well. Larwood, in particular, rendered valuable service by getting rid of Mr. Woodfull and Mr. Macartney. But these bowlers might possibly have been

replaced by Rhodes. From the moment that Rhodes went on the match was over. Rhodes has learnt no new tricks since he used to bowl one end for nearly half the time that England were in the field, and his length is not so regular as it was. Yesterday he sent down a full toss and two long hops to leg, balls which he could not bowl in his palmist days. The unbowled ball has had some very distinguished victims in this match. Hobbs, Mr. Macartney, Mr. Bardsley, and Mr. Andrews have all given away their wickets to it. The specimens released by Rhodes were all properly hit for four. Otherwise they found themselves playing forward when they would have played back, and he used the spin which his fingers impart to the ball to make it break back sharply, leaving those who will to swerve. On a biting pitch the best batsmen in the world cannot take root against a lightly left-hander who places a man at silly mid-off, another not quite square with the wicket at the point of the bat, and pitches the ball well up on the leg stump, making it break back to hit the top of the off, unless it is stopped by the bat; for there is no second line of defence to this forward-facing batsman.

On this latter occasion I wrote, at the time, "Perhaps, secretly, I was even a little glad that the highest mountain on earth, the one that so many had striven in vain to approach, still remained to challenge another band of mountaineers".

After all, getting to the top of any mountain doesn't really matter at all. It is the way in which it is done that can make it epic.

Messner has now said as much and in doing so has, at last, put things in the right perspective.

Yours etc,
CHARLES WARREN,
Buck Croft,
Felsed,
Essex.

Neglect stems from ignorance. Impresarios provide us with what they genuinely believe we want to hear. When Henry Wood started the Promenade Concerts with the declared intention of making the basic musical repertoire and contemporary compositions accessible to a wider audience, Beecham, Sargent and Boult ensured that English composers received their fair share of attention. With the departure of these first great interpreters, the major works of the English musical renaissance require a new initiative to place them alongside those of Beethoven, Dvorak, Ravel and Stravinsky in standard programmes.

The idea of "themes" may offer an easy option in the planning of concerts, but it does not make for varied listening. To avoid chauvinism and cultural paranoia we must be allowed to judge for ourselves the merits of our musical heritage at our own pace, and not have it forced upon us in necessarily cosmopolitan festivals like the Proms.

The scales are weighed too heavily in the opposite direction at present, but to judge by the concerts he arranged as Director of the Edinburgh Festival, I feel confident that John Drummond will do much to restore the balance.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID ANDERSON,
14 Chalcut Square, NW1.

Little-known phrases
From Lady Stansgate
Sir, On a visit to Jerusalem nearly 30 years ago I came across an English-Hebrew phrase-book designed, no doubt, to make life easier for officials of the mandatory government and other British residents.

The result was a treasury of things old and things new marked by a strong sense of local "atmosphere" and haunted by echoes of the familiar.

It contained such remarks as "make me an evening jacket at your lowest price", followed by "Lo! it is too straight and narrow".

Yours faithfully,
MARGARET STANSGATE,
10 North Court,
Great Peter Street, SW1,
August 13.

THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

More than one reason for caution on interest rates

Out of the confusion that has occasionally, some would say continuously, characterized economic policy this year, a clearer picture may be emerging. Having successfully pursued a strong exchange rate policy since the January sterling crisis, the Government will be endeavouring to stress that it is still responding to a wide range of domestic indicators of Britain's economic health.

From the beginning of this year, when it found itself labelled with a "couldn't care less" attitude towards the pound, the Treasury has had to indulge in a certain amount of overkill on the exchange rate. The image has been of Sir Peter Middleton, the Permanent Secretary to the Treasury, with one eye on his Reuters screen for minute-by-minute movements in the pound, and one hand ready to reach for the hotline to the Bank of England.

Accompanying this has been the process, not always subtle, of playing down the significance of the sterling M3 money supply measure.

The difficulty is that the Treasury, in throwing out the rather murky bathwater of sterling M3, has also managed to throw out a rather big baby. In playing down one domestic indicator, and playing up the exchange rate, it has succeeded in giving the impression that the pound is the only thing that matters.

The trick now will be to strike the right balance between appropriate concern for the pound and the monitoring of and response to domestic indicators, without undoing all the good work of weaning the markets off distorted sterling M3.

Fortunately, the British authorities have rather a good example to follow in the United States Federal Reserve Board. The Fed, under Paul Volcker, has maintained the confidence of the markets in its role as guardian of the monetary targets and the currency. But it is also seen as responding to a wide range of information about the economy, from "flash" gross national product, industrial production, retail sales, housing starts and unemployment, through to producer and consumer prices, and taking in the problems of farmers in the mid-West.

The Treasury argues that from the birth of the medium-term financial strategy in March 1980, policy has never been based solely on the triumvirate of narrow money, broad money and the exchange rate. Consider the following from Nigel Lawson: "Certainly the evidence of the main financial indicators which, generally speaking, reflect monetary conditions - the strong exchange rate, high interest rates... and decelerating inflation - would appear to confirm the message of the narrow money figures: namely, that monetary policy has indeed been tight".

No, that is not a quick response to Friday's news that retail price inflation is on the way down, but an extract from his Zurich speech of January 1981, when, as Financial Secretary to the Treasury Lawson was Jeeves to Sir Geoffrey Howe's Wooster.

Some things have changed. There was a reference in the speech to "the tight corporate liquidity position", which no longer exists, and Nigel Lawson then drew less comfort from the good behaviour of narrow money than he appears to do now. "Narrow money has the advantage of being easier to control", he said, "but it suffers from being almost too easy to control".

But we can take it that the Treasury is looking at a wide range of domestic indicators about both the real economy and inflation. These indicators will include industrial production, retail sales, employment and the evidence of CBI surveys, together with producer and retail price inflation, the growth in wages and movements in house prices.

The real shift in policy emphasis may not have been so much that from the monetary aggregates to the exchange rate,

but from the intermediate target of those aggregates to the final targets for growth and inflation. Which brings us to the ubiquitous money gross domestic GDP, it is simply the measure, in current prices, of total recorded activity on the economy, taking in both real growth and inflation.

Money GDP, in itself, is of little use as a target because accurate information on its course only becomes available after a delay which would mean, for example, that interest rates were being changed now in response to something that was happening, say, four months ago.

An approximation of what is happening now to money GDP can, however, be built up from the range of indicators listed above. The Americans, admittedly not always too accurately, manage to hit a "flash" on first-quarter estimate of real GNP during the quarter to which it applies.

Likely movements in the GDP deflator - the overall inflation rate in the economy - can be guessed at in the same way from historical information on producer prices, retail prices and wages, as well as survey evidence on price intentions.

Forecasts for money GDP growth were given more prominence in this year's *Financial Statement and Budget report*, and were published alongside the targets for narrow money, M0, and broad money, M3. The forecasts are for 8½ per cent growth in money GDP in this financial year - it would have been 7 per cent without the coal strike - declining to 6½ per cent in 1986-87, 5½ per cent in 1987-88 and 5 per cent in 1988-89.

Included in the FSB report was the statement that: "The Government's overriding aim will be to maintain monetary conditions consistent with a declining growth of money GDP and inflation. Short-term interest rates will be held at the levels needed to achieve this."

The elevation of the exchange rate in policy for much of this year, although it served to prevent a politically damaging drop below parity with the dollar, should be seen in this context. By influencing the pound's level through interest rates, the Government has a certain amount of choice in how much of a given rate of growth of money GDP will be in inflation, and how much in real economic growth.

At present levels, the pound is exerting a gentle downward influence on inflation, which has been somewhat exaggerated by the sharp fall in manufacturers' costs, after their equally sharp rise over the winter. At present levels of just over \$1.40 and \$2.20 on the sterling index, the pound is less than 5 per cent above its average of last year.

Taking these levels in conjunction with what is probably happening to money GDP, the argument for continuing caution on interest rates in the coming months is reinforced. The Treasury expected the 1985-86 growth in money GDP to be split between 3½ per cent real GDP growth and 5 per cent inflation, as measured by the GDP deflator.

The indications are that growth is running up to expectations - second-quarter figures for the output measure of GDP will be published today. Even last month's gloomier CBI survey contained warnings rather than evidence of slowing growth.

On inflation, however, after stripping out unusual movements in seasonal food prices and the effects of mortgage rate changes, the rate is probably still running above the underlying 5 per cent required. As important for the Treasury, there is not enough evidence - and some of it, from the labour market, is contrary - that the underlying rate is heading downwards.

Part of the reason for caution on interest rates may be fears of another embarrassing sterling crisis, but the argument against too rapid an easing of policy rests on firmer ground than this alone.

David Smith

Economics Correspondent

Rothmans may be white knight to Bell after secret talks

By William Kay
City Editor

Secret talks have taken place with Rothmans International, the South African-controlled cigarette giant, which may lead to Rothmans making an eleven-hour takeover bid for Arthur Bell and Sons, the Scotch whisky group, sources close to Bell admitted yesterday.

The news has dismayed Guinness, the brewer, which was poised to acquire Bell with a £360 million bid this Friday. Guinness had said that that offer would not be extended unless a rival bidder emerged.

Rothmans is considering whether to throw its hat in the ring within the next few days. The City Takeover Panel is expected to press Rothmans to make up its mind so that the uncertainty can be removed, and to preserve an orderly market in Bell shares.

Mr Bill Walker, the Scottish Conservative MP for Tayside North and a consistent supporter of the Bell camp, gave



Raymond Miquel: clash with fellow director



Ernest Saunders: leads Guinness assault

the Rothmans initiative an immediate welcome.

He said: "I would be happy to see someone else come in after the dreadful things that Guinness have been saying about Bell, which has been a travesty of the truth."

"If Guinness were successful, it would have a devil of a job to motivate the staff now. If Rothmans comes in and recognizes Bell for what it is, at least

it is not going to destroy the essential goodwill of the management team."

Mr Walker pointed out that Bell already had close links with South Africa, as it has a 26 per cent share of the whisky market in that country. He thought that Scottish Labour MPs would welcome Rothmans as they would want to see jobs preserved.

But there is still a strong lobby in Scotland against any takeover bids from south of the border or anywhere else, and the South African connection adds a new political dimension to the prolonged struggle for control of Bell.

The intensity of the feud with Guinness reaches a new height today with two-page advertisements in national newspapers implying that the sole opposition to Guinness comes from the Bell board, and even there Mr Peter Tyrre has said that shareholders should accept the Guinness bid unless a better offer comes along.

Mr Tyrre has publicly fallen out with Mr Raymond Miquel, chairman of Bell.

Bell's City advisers were yesterday refusing to comment on the course of the talks with Rothmans, insisting that conversations were still being held with other possible bidders. Mr Ernest Saunders, chief executive of Guinness, was not available for comment on the new development in the three-month-long saga.

US banks likely to extend Brazil debt

From Susan Branford
São Paulo

Senhor Antonio Carlos Lemgruber, president of Brazil's Central Bank, is in New York to negotiate the rolling over of the country's interbank and trade-related credits, put at \$16 billion, (\$11.4 billion) which are due to expire next week.

From the favourable reactions so far from leading United States banks, the Brazilian Government is confident that though the banks may not agree to a request of an extension of 180 days, they may agree to one of 120 days.

Since January Brazil and the creditor banks have agreed in principle to negotiate a multi-year debt rescheduling of about \$45 billion. Such a deal, would be the largest rescheduling yet.

The banks, which are not under great pressure as Brazil is paying comfortably all its interest, insist that Brazil must first reach agreement with the International Monetary Fund. It is here that serious difficulties have arisen.

After weeks of inconclusive talks, the Brazilian Government has said that it has given up hope of an agreement before the end of this year.

The main clashes have concerned the public deficit. The IMF believes that Brazil should reduce this drastically, even at the cost of economic growth. But Brazil favours a gradual approach. It says that Brazil will become unmanageable if it does not grow by at least 5 per cent a year.

President Jose Sarney, in a trip to Uruguay strongly criticized the IMF for failing to accept the need for Latin America to grow.

The next round of talks with the IMF is due next week when a Brazilian mission will travel to Washington.

IMF officials, who will be pressing for a substantial operational surplus in the public sector next year, admit privately that they do not expect real progress until the end of the year.

They expect a similar experience to that of Argentina in which a newly-elected democratic president refused to negotiate seriously until he faced unsupportable economic problems.

The Brazilian Government, however, believes that, if a dangerous confrontation is to be avoided, the IMF will have to change significantly its guidelines for dealing with heavily indebted developing countries.

GEC and Trafalgar House lead bid race for Vosper

By Claire Dobie

Up to five potential bidders were believed yesterday to have entered the race for Vosper Thornycroft, the latest of British shipbuilders' warship yards to be privatized, by the time the deadline passed at the weekend.

GEC, Trafalgar House and a management consortium are front runners for the Southampton yard, which may go for £50 million. GEC piped Trafalgar to the Clyde yard of Yarrow in March with an offer of £34 million.

The bids are being handled by Lazard Brothers, the mer-

chant bank advisers to British Shipbuilders. Lazard will be sending out draft contracts to the potential bidders, after receiving their firm expressions of interest before the weekend.

The deal is expected to be completed next month.

The shipyard privatization programme was announced in July last year by Mr Norman Tebbit, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry. Apart from Yarrow, Brooke Marine of Lowestoft has already been sold to its management.

Barclay Curle of Glasgow, the missile launcher yard, is also on

the list, as is Warship Design Services of Bath, the submarine specialist.

But the pick of the bunch has yet to come under the hammer. This is the Vickers nuclear submarine yard in Barrow, which is being sold, with Cammell Laird of Birkenhead, and should fetch more than £70 million.

In the latest annual accounts of British Shipbuilders, published last month, Vickers turned in a profit of £17.7 million, compared with £11.9 million for Vosper and £8.5 million for Yarrow.

Bupa may face threat from US

By Patience Wheatcroft

The private health insurance business, long dominated by the British United Provident Association (Bupa), may soon face a big challenge from an American insurer.

Mutual of Omaha claims to be the world's biggest operator in health insurance business but is barely known in Britain.

Now the American company is about to commission the advertising agency of Ogilvy & Mather to carry out extensive research into the British market, estimated to be worth more than £200 million a year. This is likely to result in an intensive advertising campaign.

More than 4.5 million people in Britain now subscribe to private health insurance schemes and the market is growing at between 4 and 5 per cent a year.

Bupa estimates that it has 67 per cent of the private health insurance business, itself 90 per cent of the whole market. A few years ago Bupa's share of the market dropped back a few points after it raised its subscription income topped £277 million. Its nearest competitor was Private Patients Plan.

Mutual of Omaha is a licensed insurer in Britain but has so far not marketed its services heavily, despite having offices in Nottingham, Leeds, Manchester, Birmingham and London.

Now it seems it has decided to push for new business.

Broker urges the Bank to sell off bill mountain

By Our Economics Correspondent

The Bank of England should liquidate its £15 billion "bill mountain", by transferring it to the banks, thereby improving the prospects for control of the money supply, according to Grieson Grant, the stockbroker.

Mr Mike Osborne, the broker's chief economist, says that the continuing sharp rise in bank lending is due to the marked improvement in corporate profits combined with the acquisition by the Bank of the commercial bills which make up the bill mountain.

The strength of bank lending by companies at a time of healthy company balance sheets is due, he says in Grieson Grant's *Economic and Fiscal Review*, to the attractions to the banks of lending to the corporate sector at a time when it is in good financial shape.

The availability of lending is more important than the level of interest rates, Mr Osborne says. However, if ownership of the bill mountain was transferred to the banks then much of the banks' appetite for corporate business could be

satisfied, putting brake on company borrowing.

The process of liquidating or privatizing the bill mountain would have to involve a transfer of the money to the markets, probably by using it to finance the public sector borrowing requirement, to prevent intolerable pressure building up in the money markets.

The Bank of England is expected to announce early this week which companies have been approved as inter-dealer brokers (IDBs) in the restructured government securities market. Peter Wilson-Smith writes, the list of firms authorized to act as money brokers in the gilt market is also due.

Seven companies applied to become IDBs. Their role will involve disseminating prices and effecting confidential trades between the 29 primary market makers in gilts.

The consensus in the market has long been that there will be room for at most five and probably only four IDBs to operate profitably in the market.

Savings 'target' not achieved

By Richard Thomson

The Department of National Savings failed in July to produce the monthly average amount required to meet its annual £3 billion funding total. National Savings contributed a net £232.7 million compared with the £250 million needed.

There were heavy redemptions of National Savings amounting to £325.8 million in July including a net outflow,

excluding interest, of more than £10 million from both investment and ordinary accounts. Fixed interest certificate sales amounted to £61.1 million but redemptions reduced the net intake, to £1.8 million.

Among the best performers were index-linked certificates which brought in a net £31 million. The result was helped by the high gross of £59 million

US NOTEBOOK

Grim truth on economy worries the markets

In July and to an extent into August, the stock markets were rising on the forecast made by Mr Paul Volcker to Congress when he said real gross national product would rise at an annual rate of 4 per cent in the second half of 1985.

This forecast has been behind the struggles of the bond market as it has attempted to regain balance and avoid a further plunge.

A good deal of evidence has come forward about the trend of the economy during July, however, and this suggests that Mr Volcker's forecast is falling apart. The evidence includes:

- The annual rate of growth of non-agricultural employment has fallen from 5.92 per cent in the first quarter of 1984 to 3.40 per cent in the first quarter of 1985 and to 2.23 per cent in the second quarter of 1985.
- The index of leading indicators has stalled in the last 15 months. Between March 1983 and March 1984 the index rose 11.3 per cent. But between March 1984 and June 1985 it rose by a mere 0.8 per cent.
- Retail sales are stagnant. They have fallen from an annual rate of \$115.4 billion in April to one of \$113.7 billion in July.
- Business inventories in June jumped by 0.4 per cent to \$580.09 billion, the biggest monthly increase since February, when business inventories rose by 0.5 per cent. As a result, the ratio of inventories to sales rose from 1.35 times to 1.38.
- This ratio of 1.38 times is higher than for any month in the last year, with the exception of January to April 1985.
- Business sales fell by 2.1 per cent in June, the second biggest drop on record, exceeded only by the 2.8 per cent fall in March 1985.
- The average rate of new housing starts fell from 1.845 million a year in the first four months of 1985 to 1.671 million in the three months to July.

The evidence of June and July is telling us clearly that this economy is not engaged in a "surge of growth" at all. It is struggling to maintain forward movement.

Gradually the truth is sinking in to participants in the financial markets, gradually the bond market is picking itself up and gradually the stock market is showing a weaker performance.

Mr Beryl Sprinkel, chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers had also made an optimistic forecast, based on the supposed results of the money surge between October and June.

Yet so far we are being presented with a chilling fact: the US economy is not responding to monetary stimulus as it formerly did.

Money is disappearing down some "black hole" where it is being absorbed in repayments of debts and rebuilding of shattered balance sheets, both corporate and personal.

For the leaders of the Republican Party, the emerging truth is a nightmare. If they cannot get this economy moving by pumping it up with Federal Reserve money, what can they do?

Maxwell Newton

Yelverton Investments P.L.C.

INTERIM RESULTS

The unaudited interim results of the Group for the six months ended 30th April 1985 were as follows:

	Half Year to 30th April 1985	Half Year to 30th April 1984	Full Year to 31st October 1984
GROUP INCOME			
Dealing Profits	13,634	46,889	226,539
Dividends Receivable	7,012	18,715	25,488
Bank and other interest	99,979	21,025	70,843
Fees & Rent receivable	41,478	45,854	138,610
Results of Associated Companies	—	(9,920)	(11)
Provision for losses on Investments	—	—	(69,970)
Exchange gain	14,521	—	—
TOTAL GROUP INCOME	170,624	122,563	389,499
Operating Profit (Loss) before taxation	16,984	(106,190)	(142,655)
Taxation Charge (Credit)	—	—	(78,086)
Net Profit (Loss) after taxation	16,984	(106,190)	(220,741)
Earnings (Loss) per share	0.2p	(1.32p)	(0.8p)

□ The Board have continued with their programme to reduce administrative expenses and to liquidate where possible investments of a speculative nature with reinvestment in high quality securities.

□ The Company's investment in Southend Stadium PLC has been increased to 28.7% of the voting by a further purchase since 30th April 1985 of 354,000 Ordinary Shares.

□ It is hoped that the Company's investment in a property in North London will be sold during the current year for an amount in excess of the book value at 31st October 1984.

14th August 1985.

Small firm audit doubts

The cost of an audit for small companies is disproportionate to the benefits it provides, but its removal could lead to a decline in accounting standards, according to a survey of accountants closest to small businesses, writes Ian Griffiths.

The results of a survey of accountants in practices with fewer than 10 partners, carried out by the magazine *Certified Accountant*, shows that 62.5 per cent believe that the cost of the statutory audit outweighs its benefits for a small business.

The survey shows, however, that there are mixed feelings about the impact for small companies if they were not subject to audit.

STOCK MARKETS
Friday's close and change on week:
FT Ind Ord 874.7 (+15.2)
FT All Share 828.0 (+7.98)
FT Govt Securities 83.7 (+0.41)
FT-SE 100 1,299.1 (+12.8)
Bargains 22.141
Datastream USM 103.09 (+6.01)
New York:
Dow Jones 1313.17 (-7.62)
Tokyo:
Nikkei Dow 12,583.08 (+181.89)
Hong Kong:
Hang Seng 1,700.37 (+23.89)
Amsterdam 214.8 (-1.0)
Sydney: AO 956.3 (14.7)
Frankfurt:
Commerzbank 1,418.5 (+5.4)
Brussels:
Generel n/a
Paris: CAC 215.9 (-1.6)

GOLD
London fixing:
am \$336.40pm \$335.35
Close \$337-\$337.50 (\$240.25-240.75)
New York:
Comex \$338.00

CURRENCIES
Friday's close and change on week:
London:
£: \$1.4027 (+0.0469)
£: DM 3.8632 (+0.0196)
£: SwFr 3.1622 (-0.0167)
£: FF 11.8228 (+0.0743)
£: Yen 331.43 (-7.58)
£: Index 82.2 (+1.5)
New York:
£: \$1.4020
£: DM 2.7582
£: Index 135.9 (-2.4)
ECU 20.575051
SDR 20.742408

BOARD MEETINGS
TODAY - Interims: Hickson International, Rock, The Scottish Eastern Investment Trust, Tronoh Mines Malaysia.
Finals: Access Satellite International (amended), Access Satellite Blagdan Industries, Impala Platinum Holdings, Vibroplant.
TOMORROW - Interims: De Beers Consolidated Mines, Fite Indmar.

Saxon split

The board of Saxon Oil will meet today to reconsider an improved offer from Enterprise Oil, valuing the company at more than £125 million. A board meeting broke up in disagreement on Friday, with directors split between proceeding with a merger with Charterhouse Petroleum, or putting the Enterprise offer to shareholders.

The Fleming Mercantile Investment Trust, Gaskell Broadmoor, Sir Alfred McAuliffe & Son, Metal Bulletin, The Nineteen Twenty-Eight Investment Trust, Olives Paper Mill, Queens Moat Houses, Rentokil Group, Standard Chartered, Supra Group.

Finals: A and J Gelfer, Genbel Investments, Gold Fields of South Africa, Jos Holdings, United Packaging.

WEDNESDAY - Interims: Britannic Assurance, Federated Housing, Hawley Leisure, Insight Group, Kean & Scott Holdings, Liberty Life Association of Africa, The Mersey Docks and Harbour Co, J N Nichols (Vimto), Pearl Assurance.

Finals: SelectTV, W H Smith & Son.

THURSDAY - Interims: British Assets Trust, T F & J H Brame, Garfunkel's Restaurants, Horizon Travel.

Finals: John Beale, Dame Electric International, Samuel Heath & Sons, Press Tools.

FRIDAY - Interims: Dewey Warren Holdings, Ericsson Telefonaktiebolaget LM, Pac Assets Group, Sandvik AB, Sasson Trust Cleaners.

Finals: None announced.

Notice of new rates from Nationwide from 1 Sept. 1985

	Net
Share Accounts	7.00%
FlexAccounts minimum £25	7.00%
Double Bonus Accounts minimum £500	8.50%
Bonus-90 Accounts	
£200-£9,999	9.00%
£10,000-£19,999	9.25%
£20,000 plus	9.50%
Capital Bonds (26th Issue) minimum £500	9.50%
The rate of interest on all existing Capital Bonds will be decreased by 1.25% from 1 September 1985. The guaranteed extra interest paid on all existing Capital Bonds continues unchanged.	
Subscription Share Accounts	8.00%
Deposit Accounts	6.75%
Mortgage Accounts - New Advances	
The rate of interest charged on repayment mortgages for new owner occupier borrowers is 12.75%.	
Mortgage Accounts - Existing Mortgages	
The rate of interest charged on existing repayment loans for owner occupier borrowers will be 12.75% from 1 September 1985 and the lower level of repayments will apply from that date.	
Higher rates arising from endowment and pension linked mortgages will continue to apply.	

Nationwide Building Society
NEW OFFICE HOUSE, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON WC1V 6PL

Capitalization and week's change

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

[illegible]

492.00	6000	75	1-2-8	129
492.00	6000	75	1-2-8	129
492.00	6000	75	1-2-8	129
492.00	6000	75	1-2-8	129

[illegible]

92.90	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
92.80	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
92.70	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
92.60	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
92.50	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
92.40	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
92.30	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
92.20	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
92.10	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
92.00	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
91.90	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
91.80	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
91.70	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
91.60	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
91.50	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
91.40	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
91.30	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
91.20	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
91.10	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
91.00	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
90.90	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
90.80	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
90.70	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
90.60	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
90.50	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
90.40	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
90.30	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
90.20	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
90.10	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
90.00	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
89.90	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
89.80	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
89.70	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
89.60	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
89.50	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
89.40	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
89.30	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
89.20	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
89.10	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
89.00	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
88.90	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
88.80	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
88.70	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
88.60	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
88.50	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
88.40	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
88.30	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
88.20	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
88.10	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
88.00	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
87.90	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
87.80	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
87.70	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
87.60	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
87.50	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
87.40	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
87.30	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
87.20	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
87.10	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
87.00	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
86.90	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
86.80	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
86.70	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
86.60	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
86.50	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0
86.40	Wheat	150	0	0	150	0	0</

2,107,100	Cost	163	+1	1.2
2,708,000	Estate & Agency	163		4.3
12.7m	Estate Plan	163	+2	3.3
28.5m	Estate Plan	151	+3	11.8

88.1	San Francisco Giants	172	+3	4.8	29
88.2	San Francisco Giants	172	+3	4.8	29
88.3	Philadelphia Phillies	172	+6	8.9	53
88.4	Los Angeles Dodgers	172	+6	8.9	53
88.5	San Diego Padres	172	+6	8.9	53
88.6	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
88.7	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
88.8	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
88.9	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
89.0	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
89.1	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
89.2	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
89.3	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
89.4	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
89.5	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
89.6	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
89.7	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
89.8	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
89.9	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
90.0	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
90.1	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
90.2	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
90.3	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
90.4	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
90.5	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
90.6	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
90.7	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
90.8	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
90.9	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
91.0	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
91.1	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
91.2	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
91.3	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
91.4	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
91.5	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
91.6	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
91.7	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
91.8	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
91.9	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
92.0	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
92.1	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
92.2	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
92.3	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
92.4	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
92.5	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
92.6	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
92.7	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
92.8	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
92.9	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
93.0	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
93.1	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
93.2	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
93.3	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
93.4	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
93.5	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
93.6	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
93.7	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
93.8	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
93.9	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
94.0	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
94.1	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
94.2	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
94.3	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
94.4	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
94.5	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
94.6	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
94.7	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
94.8	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
94.9	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
95.0	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
95.1	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
95.2	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
95.3	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
95.4	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
95.5	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
95.6	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
95.7	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
95.8	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
95.9	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
96.0	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
96.1	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
96.2	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
96.3	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
96.4	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
96.5	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
96.6	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
96.7	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
96.8	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
96.9	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
97.0	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
97.1	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
97.2	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
97.3	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
97.4	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
97.5	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
97.6	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
97.7	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
97.8	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
97.9	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
98.0	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
98.1	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
98.2	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
98.3	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
98.4	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
98.5	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
98.6	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
98.7	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
98.8	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
98.9	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
99.0	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
99.1	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
99.2	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
99.3	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
99.4	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
99.5	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
99.6	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
99.7	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
99.8	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
99.9	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11
100.0	San Francisco Giants	222	+3	2.5	11

78.4m	Prop Security	13%	+4%	4.2
8,336,000	Regain	7%	+1%	8
20.8m	Regain	24%	+12	4
92.8m	Roadwork	11%	+1%	4

[illegible]

SHOES AND LEATHER

	79	80		81	82	83
19.25	395	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
19.50	398	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
1.07,000	400	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	403	+1	3.1	8.1	24	
1.07,000	404	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	405	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	406	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	407	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	408	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	409	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	410	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	411	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	412	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	413	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	414	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	415	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	416	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	417	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	418	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	419	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	420	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	421	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	422	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	423	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	424	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	425	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	426	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	427	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	428	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	429	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	430	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	431	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	432	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	433	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	434	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	435	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	436	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	437	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	438	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	439	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	440	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	441	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	442	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	443	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	444	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	445	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	446	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	447	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	448	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	449	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	450	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	451	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	452	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	453	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	454	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	455	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	456	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	457	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	458	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	459	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	460	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	461	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	462	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	463	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	464	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	465	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	466	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	467	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	468	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	469	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	470	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	471	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	472	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	473	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	474	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	475	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	476	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	477	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	478	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	479	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	480	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	481	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	482	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	483	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	484	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	485	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	486	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	487	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	488	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	489	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	490	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	491	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	492	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	493	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	494	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	495	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	496	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	497	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	498	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	499	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	500	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	501	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	502	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	503	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	504	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	505	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	506	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	507	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	508	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	509	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	510	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	511	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	512	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	513	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	514	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	515	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	516	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	517	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	518	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	519	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	520	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	521	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	522	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	523	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	524	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	525	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	526	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	527	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	528	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	529	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	530	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	531	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	532	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	533	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	534	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	535	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	536	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	537	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	538	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	539	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	540	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	541	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	542	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	543	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	544	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	545	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	546	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	547	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	548	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	549	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	550	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	551	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	552	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	553	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	554	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	555	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	556	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	557	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	558	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	559	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	560	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	561	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	562	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	563	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	564	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	565	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	566	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	567	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	568	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	569	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	570	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	571	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	572	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	573	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	574	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	575	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	576	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	577	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	578	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	579	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	580	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	581	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	582	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	583	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	584	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	585	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	586	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	587	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	588	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	589	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	590	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	591	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	592	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	593	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	594	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	595	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	596	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	597	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	598	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	599	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	600	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	601	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	602	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	603	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	604	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	605	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	606	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	607	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	608	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	609	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	610	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	611	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	612	--	8.8	4.2	19.9	
3.37,000	613	+1	4.6	9	24	
1.07,000	614	--	8			

9,179,000	Liter	60	+24	0
2,542,000	Lyons (S)	70	+1	7
3,485,000	MacKay (H-high)	70	-1	6
1,980,000	Morgan	12	-1	0

[illegible][illegible]

1. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 273: 1033-1034, 1995.

Fashionable assets that come and go

After the high technology debacle it was left to the so-called people companies to take up the running on the USM.

But their reign looks likely to be short lived. Disenchantment has already set in and a number of once high-flying people shares are even standing below their issue price.

Sentiment was not helped on Friday when Cration Lodge & Knight Group, once very fashionable people, disclosed that current year's profits will be little changed.

Shares of this new product design group were placed by Henderson Crosthwaite, the broker, at 115p each in October. They subsequently hit 197p. Today they are back to the placing level.

Good Relations, a former USM constituent and now fully listed, has also not helped the increasingly uneasy atmosphere.

Its half-year figures were pedestrian to say the least and, like CL & KG, its shares could struggle to hold their still elevated ratings.

USM review

Quoted people companies come in many shapes and sizes. Marketing, public relations, financial consultancy and advertising are some of their activities. The common denominator is that assets go up and down in the office lift.

But of course assets, in the shape of highly-paid executives, have acquired a nasty habit of departing for even greener pastures.

And such behaviour can have an unsettling impact on profits, the remaining staff and, last but not by means least, the investor.

The City, of course, is packed with people businesses. The run-up to the financial "big bang" is providing uncomfortable close-to-home evidence, of the failure of the golden contract to keep executives at their posts.

In fact, the wide array of comings and goings among City men and women has only served to underline the fragility of people companies.

With the city hearing almost daily stories of brokers, jobbers and fund managers on the move — often for first division transfer fees — it is perhaps not so surprising that a more cynical approach is apparent to people companies.

Mr Geoffrey Douglas, the USM expert at Hoare Govett, the broker, is one who wonders whether the "mobility element in people businesses" has been a factor behind the way glamour shares have suffered closer scrutiny.

But although many people

Cleves Investments, which has produced some USM winners, is bringing Jack L. Israel, an importer and distributor of canned fruits and vegetables, to the market. The company numbers leading supermarket chains among its customers. Profits last year were about £1 million. Broker to the issue is Jacobson Townsley and Co. It will be its first USM issue.

Shares are now adrift from their best levels they are, in many cases, still on fancy share ratings; sporting exotic price-earnings ratios which are but a distant dream to companies at the price and sweat end of the business spectrum.

Vallo Pollen International, the public relations company, has won an impressive collection of new clients. Its shares, earlier riding at 670p, are now around 500p. Such a slide has taken the prospective multiple from probably over 40 to about 30.

Many of the deep glamour ratings accorded the people companies have caused embarrassment. They have made the companies feel uncomfortably exposed and left them nursing the belief that the stock market is expecting too much.

There is little doubt that some people companies were over-priced when they arrived in the City. The snowballing influence of a sector moves towards glamour status is almost impossible to ignore.

But the recent crop of new issues have not enjoyed the enthusiastic reception given to those earlier in the year.

Probably, as is the case each time the City fastens on to a new fashionable sector, the people companies became too popular.

Now sentiment is swinging the other way. One who welcomes this change is Mr Douglas. "It will be good for all providing the pendulum does not swing too far".

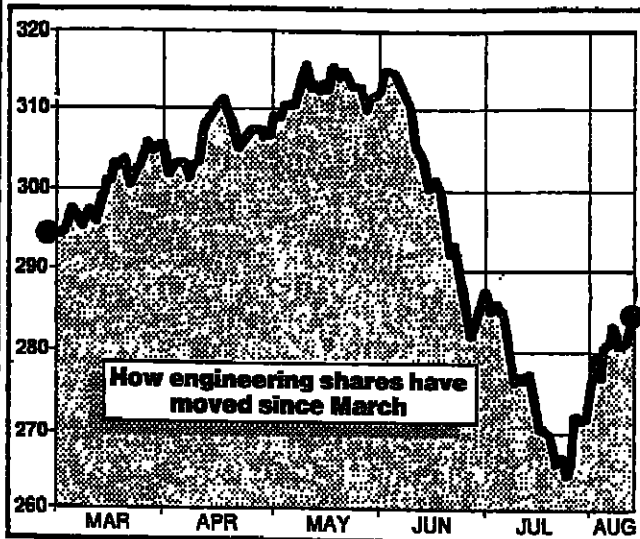
Derek Pain and Pam Spooner

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	11 1/2%
Adam & Company	11 1/2%
Barclays	11 1/2%
BCCI	11 1/2%
Citibank Savings	11 1/2%
Continental Trust	11 1/2%
Co-operative Bank	11 1/2%
C. Hoare & Co	11 1/2%
Lloyds Bank	11 1/2%
Midland Bank	11 1/2%
Nat Westminster	11 1/2%
TSB	11 1/2%
Williams & Glyn's	11 1/2%
1 Mortgage Base Rate	

ORDINARY SHARES

Engineers brace themselves for approaching slide



The rain in raincoat on most people this summer, but nowhere more than on the shares of our engineering companies. After a steady rise earlier in the year, the sector was drenched by a downpour of gloomy prognostications in June and July.

Although there are signs of a recovery in confidence, some City analysts, notably those at the stockbrokers Quilter Goodson, argue that the industry is heading for a crisis in the next two years or so.

The apocalyptic Mr Alan Coats at Quilter believes that the engineers are about to be hit by a deadly combination of lower demand from the United States and stronger sterling. He expects "severe under-performance relative to the rest of the stock market".

The pincer movement between interest rates and exchange rates has indeed become a worrying preoccupation for the engineers. Because a third of the sector's output is exported, there have been predictable complaints about the strength of the pound and calls for lower interest rates to make sterling less attractive.

Unfortunately, such is the perversity of foreign exchange markets, interest cuts are often seen abroad as a sign of confidence, pushing the currency up even more.

All this is happening against a background of shrinking order books and a prediction by the Engineering Employers' Federation that output will be static this year and down next.

None of this dawns the engineering team at Henderson Crosthwaite, whose members have toured the West Midlands and found plenty of evidence that further rationalization benefits have yet to filter through to profit and loss accounts. But, as they are quick to add, the game now is to pick out the companies capable of surviving the next slide.

The difficulty of the task has been reflected in the diversity of recent results from the sector's leading companies. Glyndwr International pushed ahead soundly, GKN had a little help from currency translations and TI Group was moved by a near-steady profits performance to digress at length about the promised land that will be discovered next year. But then, TI was and is steeling itself to meet a takeover bid from the Abdullah brothers at Evered Holdings, or their allies.

That bid, if it comes, will help to focus attention on the long-distance runners among the engineers — those companies which seem poised to generate enough profits to maintain a steadily-rising flow of dividends.

The three I focused on in my March review of the sector, GKN, Vickers and EIS Group, are all at modestly higher levels five months later. GKN is up from 219p to 230p, after being 245p; Vickers is up from 252p to 278p; and EIS has moved from 182p to 198p.

The enthusiasm for Vickers, which is due to report half-year results next month, varies. The group is believed to be on track for profits of £40 million for the year, against £30.8 million last year. That should give a prospective p/e ratio of just over 7 and a yield of about 6.5 per cent.

That is not to be sneezed at, but the doubters claim that we shall then have seen the best of the recovery from Vickers. Henderson Crosthwaite picks out BICC as one to watch, on the basis that the arrival of Sir William Barlow as chairman

has heralded a radical tidying-up. Most of the fruits will not appear until 1986, thanks partly to the drag effect of the weak Australian dollar this year. Again, the interims should be out next month, and at 203p there is a 7.4 per cent yield to rest on.

The lesser of the sector at the moment is Babcock International. The analysts expect between £38 million and £39 million pretax profits this year, against £31.6 million last time. But there are strongly conflicting forces within the group. The United States operation is doing well, whereas the UK power division has suffered and, like other mining equipment suppliers, it has found that orders from the National Coal Board have been slow to revive.

There may also be fears that the energies of Lord King, the chairman, have been diverted by the problems at British Airways — although he would be quick to point to the abilities of his managing director, Mr Michael Hoffman.

Babcock's interim results, due in the next fortnight, may show a slight drop on the previous figure. But, at 141p, the p/e of 7.9 and the 8.1 per cent yield offer fair protection against storms.

William Kay
City Editor

Tempus Gilt: Chancellor fences with Bank over rates

Who would be a central banker? The job just is not what it used to be. Time was when market traders and politicians alike held you in dread, and the travel perks were quite good, too. But now, the pressure is on the whole time. The gurus forecast your howl for impeachments. At the present rate all the tradition will be drained from the job.

Such may have been the thoughts running through the heads last week of Paul Volcker, chairman of the United States Federal Reserve Board, and Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Governor of the Bank of England. Henry Kaufman of Salomon Brothers opined in New York that the US economy was now so weak that the Fed would be forced to ease, and run the risk of stoking up inflation. In London, Brian Sedgmore, the Labour MP, called on the Governor to resign over Johnson Matthey Bankers, after posting a file on the disaster to the Chancellor.

Meanwhile, in Germany, where they order these things so much better, the Bundesbank smoothly arranged a half-point cut in the Lombard rate, and rates fell in Holland too. Central bankers still enjoy some esteem in Europe, it seems. Perhaps the policies are more rational.

Yet just to prove that a few years in the job engenders some expertise in trickery, the Fed refused abruptly to run in the forecast direction. Fed funds rose last week to well over 8 per cent, and the bonds sold off.

Fall-out from the Kaufman remarks hit London almost immediately. Fears that the Fed would be forced to ease pushed sterling up, and the dollar, prodding the gilt market into early life last week. Traders yet again evoked the foreigner as the mainstay of an inherently unstable market. The Bank of England, with some expertise, managed to defuse the issue by rushing out

a tapstock, Treasury 9% per cent 2002. Priced ahead of the market, and crammed with attractive non-price features, like a clean tax position, and futures deliverability, the stock acted as control mechanism for the market and dampened down expectations. For the rest of last week, after the stock's announcement on Monday, gilts were orderly.

Does the issue of the stock signal a return by the authorities to a more conventional approach to capital markets? Connoisseurs of the gilt market will recall that the recent "hands off" approach stemmed from a desire to avoid over-funding, effectively the matching of an increase in the bill mountain with gilt sales.

By leaving gilts to their own devices, the authorities hoped to establish a temporary trade-off between broad money overshoots, as gilt sales stacked, and a fall in the bill mountain.

Detailed money supply figures last week pointed to the success, at least so far, of the Bank's delphic policy. Bills held by the Issue Department fell by £1.2 billion, and brought the gross sterling advances figure of £2.7 billion down to far more manageable £1.5 billion. Net gilt sales were just £8 million. Perhaps more significantly, gilt purchases by foreigners, apparently peaked in banking June at £730 million.

The key additional factor in the Bank's gavel remains the discount houses. Their bill holdings, albeit on a snapshot basis, also fell during banking July from £4.2 billion to £2.8 billion.

The whole exercise is akin to stopping a jumbo in mid-flight, and keeping it hovering. Foreigners are encouraged to think that sterling rates will fall, and hence move out of gilts. The houses are discouraged from thinking rates will fall, and hence are willing to part with their longer dated paper, which they were obliged to buy in the first place because

the negative slope of the yield curve only makes the bills self-financing via capital uplift. As a result, the maturity of the bill mountain shrinks, and eventually it runs off quite easily.

The Bank was keen to emphasize last week that rates would not fall, and also that no significance should be attached to the low level of funding in banking July. It can see its way out of the wood, and perhaps is poised to start firing again.

Three additional factors may complicate the smooth operation of the Bank's policies. Judging by the noises emanating from the Treasury, the Chancellor will be keen to cut rates. His justification will be that sterling is well-established around \$1.40, and that the exchange rate can take the strain. The Bank may resist the Chancellor.

The houses, ever sensitive to the ebb and flow of policy, sent a win, albeit pyrrhic, for the Chancellor. Last week, the discount rate of the UK Treasury bill tender fell from just over 11 per cent to 10.93 per cent. Recently changes in the Treasury bill tender rate have been reasonably good indicators of base rate changes.

On top of that a news agency report last week stated quite categorically that the Prime Minister was not keen to jettison EM3, since it had been in use since the Tories came to power six years ago. There is more in this than just stamping at Number 10. Without a broad money target, the Government lacks a credible Public Sector Borrowing Requirement (PSBR), enabling spending ministers to run wild, and evade any Star Chamber controls.

A tentative forecast of what all this means for the gilt market seems to include a rally as base rates look set to fall, coupled perhaps with confusing protestations of monetary virtue. The gilt market knows very well what this means in practical terms — taps, and lots of them, to discourage the market.

MODERN PENTATHLON

More downs than ups for riders on 'Big Dipper'

From Michael Coleman, Vancouver

Riders and horses tumbled on a treacherously slippery Royal Agricultural Showground here yesterday as the world championships opened with the Show Jumping.

Only one of the 55 competitors, Attila Mizer, of Hungary, managed to keep himself and all fences totally upright and in good time. His maximum of 1100 points gave him an early lead from Andy Jung, of Switzerland, on 1084, and Carlo Massullo, of Italy, on 1070.

As Graham Brookhouse, third in the British string, put it while inspecting his bruises: "Riding is like the Big Dipper — one minute you are on top of the world, the next you could not be lower".

Only a yard or two from the finish of the 16-jump course, Brookhouse had been sent flying by his horse after a stum on the middle gate of the final treble. Until then Brookhouse's head was high, with only two fences dislodged and a score of 1040 expected.

He came sharply down to earth however after a frantic scramble to get to grips with his mount, he sprawled across the treble, the clock

knocked away, and he finished with 842.

The final treble also caught out Jim Nowak, his colleague, but he refused to let go, amidst falling posts and bars, and flailing legs, and forced his horse over the line.

With 982, Nowak was the top scorer in the team. Richard Phelps knocked off five for his 950, though at break-neck speed.

Many others also came to grief, among them the top Soviet riders, Anatoly Starostin. World champion of 1983, with 972 pts, and Igor Shvarts, on 904, Lazzlo Fabian of Hungary, who is much-admired, collected only 878.

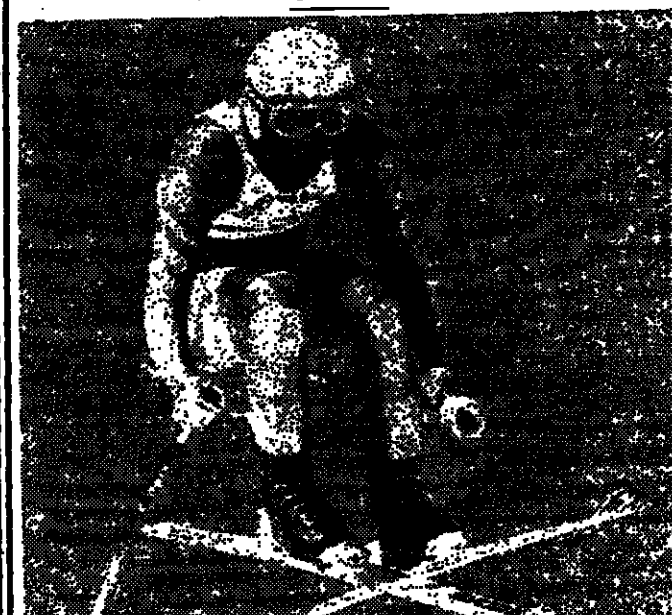
Janusz, Prickal, of Poland, did even worse, wrecking most gates and finishing with only 778.

Today's event will put things in greater perspective. Bohdan Trio, who achieved an unexpected team gold in the riding, may have to plumb the depths before too long.

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SKIING



Flying high: Alpiger heads for first place in the downhill

Alpiger makes rapid climb to the top

Las Lenas, Argentina, (Reuter) — Karl Alpiger, the emerging star of a strong Swiss team, has become the man to beat after winning both World Cup Downhills in this booming new resort in the Andes.

The unexpected dominance of Alpiger, who less than a year ago was struggling here to keep his place in the Swiss team, will affect the outcome of the Cup season which resumes on more familiar ground in Europe in December. The Swiss team's strong performance was hardly surprising as they won most of last season's downhill and have trained here in August since 1983.

Alpiger, however, who failed to qualify for last season's World Championships in Bormio, was rated below his team-mates Peter Müller and Pirmin Zurbriggen as well as Helmut Hoeflechner, of Austria, the World Cup downhill champion.

Alpiger's increased confidence and his ability on the demanding piste here will allow him to be included among the leading downhill competitors who vie for victory on the courses of Kitzbühel, Wengen, St Anton and Garmisch-Partenkirchen. Las Lenas, scene of Alpiger's wins thousands of miles from those traditional resorts, could become another regular stop on the World Cup circuit, a possibility favoured by the Swiss head coach Karl Freshner.

"The balance of these races is positive," Freshner said. "The course here can live up to European standards and the organizers did an excellent job."

"Alpine" skiing is now a full-time occupation and the racers must be ready to compete in this period of the year as it is winter in the southern hemisphere. It cuts down the long break of the off-season and motivates them in their training."

Freshner regretted that races on Bariloche, south of here, and La Parva, in northern Chile, could not take place.

The success of the Las Lenas events will give the officials of the Australian and New Zealand Ski Federations more hope of hosting the World Cup in future.

For the moment, the light for the overall 1985-86 World Cup is underway with West German Markus Wasmeier and Austrian-born Marc Girardelli, who races for Luxembourg, scoring top 10 finishes here.

SECOND DOWNHILL RACE: 1. K. Alpiger (Switzerland) 2:28.36; 2. M. Müller (Switzerland) 2:28.37; 3. P. Müller (Switzerland) 2:28.38; 4. R. Zurbriggen (Switzerland) 2:28.39; 5. D. Mahr (Switzerland) 2:28.40; 6. H. Hoeflechner (Austria) 2:28.41; 7. P. Zurbriggen (Switzerland) 2:28.42; 8. M. Wasmeier (West Germany) 2:28.43; 9. M. Girardelli (Luxembourg) 2:28.44; 10. D. Lüscher (Switzerland) 2:28.45; 11. B. Kernen (Switzerland) 2:28.46; 12. T. Brocher (Switzerland) 2:28.47; 13. G. Pertinace (Italy) 2:28.48; 14. V. Weisberger (Austria) 2:28.49; 15. S. Nader (Switzerland) 2:28.50; 16. D. Lüscher (Switzerland) 2:28.51; 17. M. Smith (Switzerland) 2:28.52; 18. D. Lüscher (Switzerland) 2:28.53; 19. M. Smith (Switzerland) 2:28.54; 20. M. Smith (Switzerland) 2:28.55.

Watson was lying equal sixth after his 40 shots at 50 metres, when scored 397 out of 400, the best on the range at 100 yards. He looked a certain winner with a total of 786 until Bobbi, who had been two in front of Watson at 50 metres, produced 395 in the last session, enough to draw level. Watson won the 10-shot tie-break by 97 to 96.

Major Alan Glasby, of Chobham RC, won the Arthur Traies Trophy for the combined third position and prize aggregate when he beat Philip Scanlon, of Romford by 22 points.

RESULTS: 1. E. P. Watson (City of London) 2. M. Smith (Switzerland) 3. D. Lüscher (Switzerland) 4. M. Smith (Switzerland) 5. D. Lüscher (Switzerland) 6. M. Smith (Switzerland) 7. D. Lüscher (Switzerland) 8. M. Smith (Switzerland) 9. D. Lüscher (Switzerland) 10. M. Smith (Switzerland) 11. D. Lüscher (Switzerland) 12. M. Smith (Switzerland) 13. D. Lüscher (Switzerland) 14. M. Smith (Switzerland) 15. D. Lüscher (Switzerland) 16. M. Smith (Switzerland) 17. D. Lüscher (Switzerland) 18. M. Smith (Switzerland) 19. D. Lüscher (Switzerland) 20. M. Smith (Switzerland).

Arriving in thirteen place yesterday using a headstart borrowed from Philip Walwyn's Antiguan entry Spirit of St Kitts after his own had blown out. Know-Johnston reported that British Airways had been slowed on the first stage by jammed control towers and broken mainline batteries.

RESULTS: 1. Kar Cadejo (F. Boucher, F. 34hr 25min 20sec; 2. A. P. (T. Bullimore, G. 35hr 45; 3. Credit Agricole (F. J. J. 36hr 25sec).

YACHTING

French are stunned by Apricot

By Barry Pickthall

Apricot, the 60ft British trimaran skippered by Tony Bullimore and Nigel Irens, who have won their class on the two preceding legs of the TAG Round Europe race, astonished their larger French rivals by finishing in second overall in Torquay early yesterday at the finish of the third leg in this 3,000 mile race.

The 16-metre wing-masted trimaran designed and built by Irens, which also won the recent Round Britain race, made most of the light headwinds experienced throughout Saturday, as the 18-strong fleet crossed the Channel on the 265-mile stage from Zebruge to finish three and half hours behind the larger and equally radical French Fofler Ker Cadejo, skippered by Francois Boucher.

Apricot's performance was in stark contrast to Britain's two other entrants, Robin Knox-Johnston's 60ft catamaran, Airways 1, and the 80ft Novell Network, skippered by Peter Phillips, both of which have been plagued with problems since the start of this race. Arriving in thirteen place yesterday using a headstart borrowed from Philip Walwyn's Antiguan entry Spirit of St Kitts after his own had blown out. Know-Johnston reported that British Airways had been slowed on the first stage by jammed control towers and broken mainline batteries.

RESULTS: 1. Kar Cadejo (F. Boucher, F. 34hr 25min 20sec; 2. A. P. (T. Bullimore, G. 35hr 45; 3. Credit Agricole (F. J. J. 36hr 25sec).

LACROSSE

Quick start

Great Britain earned a 6-5 victory over the Australian lacrosse team in Perth yesterday (a Special Correspondent writes). Great Britain were three goals up through McGinnis, Arrow-Smith and Pottinger before Arriebe was able to get into their stride, but goals from Mitchell and McGinnis kept the tourists' noses in front.

السلامة

GOLF

Woosnam is left helpless as Lyle grabs first prize at Fulford

By Mitchell Platts

Sandy Lyle produced another amazing finish to win the Benson & Hedges International Open at Fulford, York, yesterday by one stroke from Ian Woosnam.

Lyle, the Open champion, collected six birdies in the last eight holes to overhaul the luckless Woosnam, who had finished an hour earlier with a course record of 62 that included a world record-equaling sequence of eight successive birdies.

With a winning aggregate of 274, 14 under par, Lyle took the first prize of £25,000, which increased his earnings for this season in Europe to £153,303, meaning that he has already moved past the official European Order of Merit record of £139,344, established by Bernhard Langer, of West Germany, last season.

Lyle said afterwards: "It's a hard act to follow when you win the Open and I was fairly apprehensive because a lot of people told me that I could suffer a reaction for the rest of the season. But I've remained fairly relaxed and things have gone pretty well for me."

The intriguing aspect of Lyle's success was that throughout this week he elected not to strike a single practice shot because he was convinced that the rain-soaked range might be instrumental in damaging his timing.

Even so, as the final round unfolded, it appeared that he would not make a significant impression as he reached the turn in 34, two under par, and Woosnam, playing six matches ahead of him, sprang out of the pack and into the lead.

Woosnam had been so despondent with his lack of success on the greens this week that he tried three different putters. Yet he was obliged to coax home only one putt of more than eight feet for the ten birdies that he registered in a remarkable round.

He is regarded as one of the most aggressive players in the European game and this was reflected in the manner in which he attacked the course as he embarked on his record-equaling run of birdies, by placing a two-iron eight feet from the hole at the fourth.

Thereafter, he appeared to have the ball on a piece of string and he might even have pitched in for eagles at the long ninth and 11th holes, where on both occasions the ball stopped tantalisingly two inches from the cup.

The prospect of a new world record - the Americans, Fuzzy Zoeller and Bob Goalby, and the Spaniard, Severiano Ballesteros, also recorded eight in a row - was lost when Woosnam left himself a difficult pitch from the right side on the 12th green. However, he struck a seven-iron to five feet for a two at the 14th then birdied the

15th, where his attempt for an eagle from 40 feet lipped the hole.

Sam Torrance (68), the defending champion, Des Smyth (68), of Ireland, and the Australian, Rodger Davis (69), remained involved in an enthralling confrontation for the title, but they were eventually compelled to share third place as Lyle came through to overtake Woosnam.

Lyle began his round in uncertain fashion by taking three putts at the first, but after turning in 34, he began to find his touch by reaching the 11th (50th) with a one-iron and two-iron and two-putting for his birdie. It was to be the first of six birdies during an inward half of 30.

Lyle was required to record one under par on each of the last two holes in order to win, and after holing from 10 feet at the 17th, he made certain of another famous victory by reaching the green at the long 18th with a one-iron and a four-iron, then safely two-putting for a birdie four.

Woosnam, pipped at post



Woosnam: pipped at post

FINAL SCORES FROM FULFORD

GB and Ireland unless stated	283 J O'Leary, 75, 69, 67, 72; G Brand, 73, 65, 71, 74
274: A Lyle, 70, 69, 71, 64	284 R Hanley, 74, 71, 68, 70; D J Russell, 72, 70, 68, 72
275: I Woosnam, 70, 73, 70, 62	285 J O'Leary, 75, 69, 67, 72; G Brand, 73, 65, 71, 74
276: S Torrance, 68, 71, 67, 68; D Smyth, 69, 68, 71, 68; R Davis (Aus), 70, 70, 67, 69	286 M McLean, 71, 73, 72, 69; G Marsh, 73, 72, 70, 70; T Gale (Aus), 73, 70, 69, 70
277: H Clark, 71, 71, 69, 66	287 M McLean, 71, 73, 72, 69; G Marsh, 73, 72, 70, 70; T Gale (Aus), 73, 70, 69, 70
278: H Balcom, 72, 66, 68, 68	288 J O'Leary, 75, 69, 67, 72; G Brand, 73, 65, 71, 74
279: I Balcom-Finch (Aus), 73, 69, 69, 68; M Mould, 74, 68, 68, 69; M Jones, 68, 73, 68, 70	289 R Lee, 76, 71, 75, 67; J Morgan, 74, 73, 68, 70
280: S Lexington (Aus), 70, 76, 68, 68; K Brown, 74, 71, 69, 69	
281: M Clayton (Aus), 72, 73, 70, 68; L Clark, 72, 74, 68, 68; J Bland (SA), 72, 67, 70, 72	
282: E Darcy, 72, 73, 69, 68; M King, 71, 68, 70; B Langer (Ger), 72, 69, 68; W Langer (Ger), 71, 73, 65, 73; G Galacher, 72, 72, 68, 70	

Jacklin's surprise choice

Tony Jacklin, the captain, announced that he would select the team which he considered best for the task of attempting to end the United States' 27-year run in the match by going for a player whom he believes has the tenacity and talent to play an important role. "If I've seen anybody's feelings then I can say that I am sorry," Jacklin said.

"My job, unfortunately, is not to come out of this as a nice guy but to have the team which I believe is best equipped to beat the Americans. It's not a pleasant task, but it is a very good one, and it is a very good one."

"I spoke to Seve Ballesteros this week and he endorsed my sentiments regarding him. To some it is a surprise, but I believe that he is a very good player. I have been thinking about him for a long time - he impresses me as a player who can hole putts under pressure and at the

end of the day that is what matters. He isn't a great stylist... but he has the bottle."

Rivero has been only once on the European tour but that was at The Belfry last year when he calmly beat a part of ten feet on the last green to beat Calzaghe and Rivero and Calzaghe was the World Cup for Spain last November. It would appear that Jacklin has had it in his mind to pair them.

Calzaghe earned the sixth and last automatic place by edging past O'Connor at the eleventh hour and it is somewhat cruel that the Irishman, who finished tenth and has a 23,000 ahead of O'Connor, should be the player overlooked.

O'Connor said: "I am disgusted and totally shattered. It was obvious when Tony Jacklin gave the TV interview that I was never in contention."

TEAM: S Lyle (Scot), S Torrance (Scot), I Woosnam (Wales), B Langer (Ger), P Wynn (Eng), J O'Leary (Ire), J Bland (SA), K Brown (Scot), J Morgan (Wales), J O'Leary (Ire), J Bland (SA), K Brown (Scot), J Morgan (Wales).

CYCLING

LeMond has victory in sight

From John Wilcockson, Boulder, Colorado

Greg LeMond looked set to win the Coors International Classic for the second time in five years when the 11th and final stage of the race was finished in Boulder yesterday. LeMond, 19 when he previously won the event, has ridden with skill and maturity through the 14 days of racing.

LeMond established his leadership on the fifth day when he made an attack near his home town of Carson City, Nevada, and finished the 67-mile stage with Andrew Hampsten in Reno more than four minutes ahead of him.

Hampsten, the 23-year-old from North Dakota who lives in Boulder, subsequently tried to break clear from LeMond on the stages in the

Rocky Mountains, but without success. LeMond was backed by the strongest team in the race, with invaluable support provided by Bernard Hinault, who was repaying the American for his support during the Tour de France.

The 92 miles Morgul-Bismarck stage was won by a local favorite, Irishman, Alan McCormack, 29, who collapsed after crossing the hilly finishing line five seconds ahead of two American professionals, Chris Carmichael and Bob Roll. The popular Irishman had been in the lead for six of the seven laps in a six-man breakaway group, which included his younger brother, Paul McCormack.

FOR THE RECORD

SPEEDWAY BRITISH LEAGUE: Blue Bulls 51, Kings Lynn 37, 37
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Prost wins re-run easily with a little boost from FISA president

By John Blunsden

Alain Prost's victory in the Austrian Grand Prix yesterday, his 30th, was a triumph for the 27-year-old Frenchman, who has taken his place as the world's most successful driver, with his second victory in the world's most prestigious motor race, the Austrian Grand Prix, which he won by a margin of 1.1 seconds from Nelson Piquet.

The decision to re-run the race was made by the FIA, which had been told by the Austrian authorities that the race should be held on the same day as the Formula 1 race, which was held on the same day as the Formula 1 race.

Prost's victory was a triumph for the 27-year-old Frenchman, who has taken his place as the world's most successful driver, with his second victory in the world's most prestigious motor race, the Austrian Grand Prix, which he won by a margin of 1.1 seconds from Nelson Piquet.

Gap will be left by Lauda's retirement

Niki Lauda's decision to retire at the end of the season will leave a gap in the grand prix scene which cannot easily be filled (John Blunsden writes). Although he will be remembered by many people mainly for the fiery accident on the icy Nürburgring, which cost him his left leg, Lauda's contribution to motor racing history runs much deeper than that.

A man who rarely uses two words when one will suffice, Lauda, aged 36, nevertheless has brought to the paddock a rare blend of wisdom, logic and analytical thought which on many occasions has solved a difficult problem. His abrupt dismissal of hunches has been refreshing, likewise his forthrightness - one has never been in any doubt about the Lauda view - and his honesty.

Dutchman's third win

Gerrit van Kouwen scored his third win in the Marlboro British Formula Three Championship when he won the 14th round on Saturday. The Dutchman made a brilliant start to the 25 laps race from the front row in his Peugeot Motorsport R130, thereafter racing himself perfectly to head home Brazilian Mauricio Gugelmin and last month's Donington winner Dave Scott.

McEnroe is too much for Connors

Montreal (Reuters) - For the second week in a row, John McEnroe and Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia will meet in finals, this time at the Canadian Open here. McEnroe, the top-seeded defending champion, beat compatriot Jimmy Connors 6-2, 6-3 in a semi-final. It was the first time the two have played since their five-set semi-final at last year's US Open.

Lendl, the second seed, had a tougher battle before winning 6-4, 6-2, against Jimmy Arias, of the United States.

Biancone's triumphant trio put Bairn in his place

From Desmond Stoneham, Deauville

Patrick Biancone was responsible for the first three past the post in yesterday's Prix Jacques Le Marois here. The winner was the ex-English Vin de France, who defeated his pacemaker, Verge, (like Vin de France formerly trained by Henry Cecil at Newmarket) by two lengths with River Mist a short head away, third. The same distance back in fourth place came the 6-4 favourite Bairn, the English challenger, who was the disappointment of the race.

Biancone's three horses were always in the leading group. Vin de France and Eric Legrix took the advantage off Verge, a hurling and a half from home, and the pair went on to widen their lead in hand. When Vin de France and Bairn met in the St James's Palace Stakes at Royal Ascot earlier this season, the latter finished two and half lengths ahead.

Wantage can lead off Hern double

Dick Hern, who will be hoping to sweep some of the glittering prizes on offer at the York eucalyptus, began the week on an encouraging note with a win at both of today's Flat meetings, Windsor and Leicester. Willie Carson, Hern's stable jockey, is travelling on the course, and Wantage looks likely to have plenty of improvement in him.

Hern's winner at Leicester should be the unbeaten Salazar in the Leicester Tiers Handicap. This daughter of Potok's sire, Ninkah, has gained authoritative success at Wolverhampton and Doncaster and looks good enough to defy top weight.

Leaders on the Flat

Trainer	Jockey	Time	Weight	Age	Sex	Colour	Notes
H. Cecil	S. Pegg	1.10.4	11.5	3	M	B	1st
M. Stoute	B. Hills	1.10.5	11.5	3	M	B	2nd
B. Hills	B. Hills	1.10.5	11.5	3	M	B	3rd
I. Balding	P. Cole	1.10.6	11.5	3	M	B	4th
H. Jones	S. Pegg	1.10.7	11.5	3	M	B	5th
L. Curran	S. Pegg	1.10.8	11.5	3	M	B	6th
G. Harwood	S. Pegg	1.10.9	11.5	3	M	B	7th
C. Britton	S. Pegg	1.11.0	11.5	3	M	B	8th

LEICESTER

Going: good
Draw advantage: 5f-6f, low numbers best

Runners	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	

WINDSOR

Going: good
Draw advantage: 5f-6f, high numbers best

Runners	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
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Shernazar strolls into Arc picture

The Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe is the target for Shernazar's half-brother, Shernazar, who is expected to win the race. Shernazar is a 10-year-old gelding, trained by Michael Stoute, who is expected to win the race. Shernazar is a 10-year-old gelding, trained by Michael Stoute, who is expected to win the race.

Results from Saturday's five meetings

Wolverhampton: 1. 1.10.4, 2. 1.10.5, 3. 1.10.6, 4. 1.10.7, 5. 1.10.8, 6. 1.10.9, 7. 1.11.0, 8. 1.11.1, 9. 1.11.2, 10. 1.11.3, 11. 1.11.4, 12. 1.11.5, 13. 1.11.6, 14. 1.11.7, 15. 1.11.8, 16. 1.11.9, 17. 1.12.0, 18. 1.12.1, 19. 1.12.2, 20. 1.12.3, 21. 1.12.4, 22. 1.12.5, 23. 1.12.6, 24. 1.12.7, 25. 1.12.8, 26. 1.12.9, 27. 1.13.0, 28. 1.13.1, 29. 1.13.2, 30. 1.13.3.

Windsor

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Runners	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
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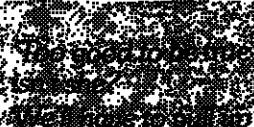
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HORIZONS

A guide to career choice

The final way into university

Beryl Dixon tells students who just missed how to find a college place

Now is the time for action if last week's results were disappointing. I said then that if your grades are just below your offer it is worth telephoning to ask whether they might still take you. Do this first, before you consider alternatives.

One extra piece of advice: If you can remember who interviewed you, try to speak to that person. He or she will have your original application with notes made on it at the time, and will be responsible for the ultimate decision. If not, ask for the admissions office and speak to the staff there.

Next, try some new places. I said there was probably a place waiting for you somewhere if you could find it. There is, and it will take some tracking down.

Universities play it close to their chests. Few admit to having any vacancies now. At this time they give priority to applicants who have missed qualifying narrowly. Then they will notify UCCA Clearing of any remaining places. Clearing will not become fully operational for some days yet, but universities might in the meantime respond favourably to candidates who telephone.

All other establishments totalled their vacancies at the beginning of August, so it is possible to find out immediately which have definite empty places.

I telephoned a number of polytechnics and colleges last week, and found

Another word of advice: Be persistent

a distinct pattern emerging. While there are vacancies somewhere in almost every subject, it will be harder to gain places in English, law, history, architecture, business and computing. Scientists stand a good chance; engineering applicants should have plenty of choice; and there are openings on courses in less well known subjects.

One polytechnic, which did not wish to be named, revealed that its arts and social science courses are already over-subscribed. "Don't phone for these unless you have at least seven points", said the admissions officer. But the polytechnic has places in engineering or building for candidates with quite modest grades.

"We are almost open to negotiation on each of these," she said, adding that there is a feeling abroad that universities have made lower offers this year for biology, chemistry and physics, "which means that at the crunch point, polytechnics may be short of applicants".

This was repeated by Manchester Polytechnic with the rider that "engineering will probably make offers right through September", and by Huddersfield where the chances of acceptance in business studies, social studies and humanities are poor but there is hope in engineering and accountancy at about five and six points respectively, and surprisingly in computing at six points. Chemistry again is "virtually negotiable".

Trent's only really over-subscribed courses are business studies and law, making it pointless to phone unless you have more than two Cs.

On August 2 the Department of Education and Science compiled a list of vacancies from returns sent by all the polytechnics and colleges. This has been sent to all Advanced Further Information Service advisers and is the most comprehensive list of vacant places available.

Some 163 institutions have notified places on 425 different courses - such a vast number as it first appears, since more than 60 courses lead to B.Eds - only of interest to those of you who wish to teach. But the variety of degree and diploma courses available makes it imperative to make an early appointment with your local adviser.

This list, which will be updated twice, shows English and history as two of the most competitive subjects, with only six institutions listing vacancies, and of these, most have less than 10.

Drama shows only five, again all with less than 10; architecture only four; and computing also four. Law has 10, eight at polytechnics and two at institutes of higher education. Nine places can offer a number of vacancies in geography and 12 in social studies.

Accountancy is a surprise with 13 institutions named, one of which, the Humber College of Higher Education, is talking in terms of two Dcs as its business studies with 16 listings. There are several places in modern languages, several in the building and surveying subjects, and many for primary teaching - with options for specialization in most subjects. If you want secondary teaching your best bet is in craft, design and technology.

In the sciences there is much more choice. A dozen places list vacancies in physics, biology, mathematics and chemistry. As far as the latter is

concerned six have more than 20 empty places.

Engineering is the runaway subject. You can apply for 27 different branches, most of the places being in civil, mechanical, electrical and electronic engineering and several in information technology. If you find it hard to imagine so many different specializations did you know that there are courses in metallurgy and microstructural engineering? (Vacancies at Sheffield Polytechnic.)

Knowing where the places are is important but knowing the grade requirements is equally so. English seems universally high. The Cambridge College of Arts and Technology, for example, told me there were places on all courses with a standard requirement of two Cs, "except in English for which we ask for a B".

Law and business studies are not full but Cs are likely to be required. However, the pattern will vary considerably with some places asking for lower grades than others. There simply is no short cut. You must telephone and ask.

If you are unsuccessful, have you considered changing courses? You may be able to get on one which includes some of your preferred subjects. Humanities or combined studies courses often include history or English. Or, how about changing to a different subject which will still cater for your interests?

One polytechnic is almost open to negotiation

There are places in housing studies, occupational hygiene, food science, and European business studies - at two Ds - among others. And if you can locate a course which received approval only recently, such as Bristol's degree in micro-electronics or Humber's business information systems, you could be in with a good chance.

Also, do consider higher diploma courses. Entry requirements to these should range from one to five points.

Finally, be persistent. The situation described by the first list from the Department of Education and Science can only improve. As students decline offers, establishments will find more vacancies, not fewer. By the middle of September the true vacancy position should become clear and grades may begin to drop. As Mr Foster of Trent Polytechnic said to me last week: "We are talking about my courses which are apparently full or those which may be in three weeks' time?" "Standard definition of 'points', A=5, B=4, C=3, D=2, E=1

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